

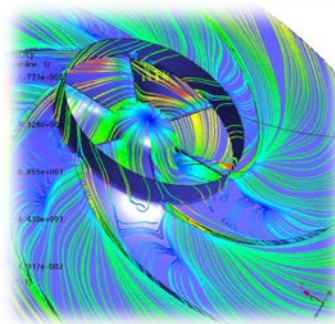
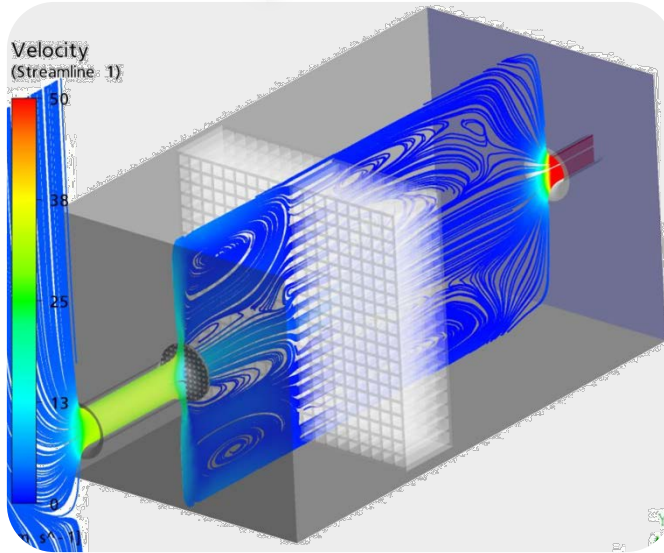
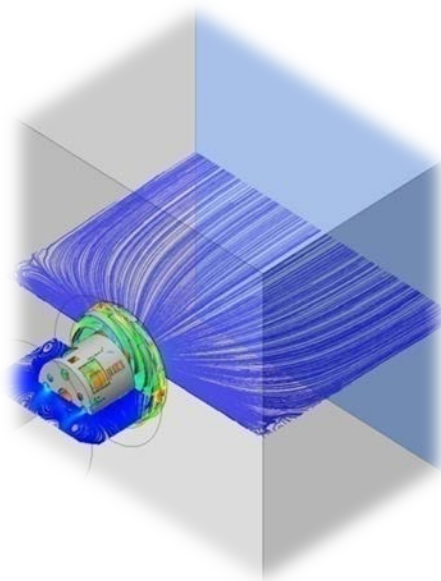


# CFD AND EFD IN THE DESIGN PROCESS OF FANS AND BLOWERS

Philipp Epple

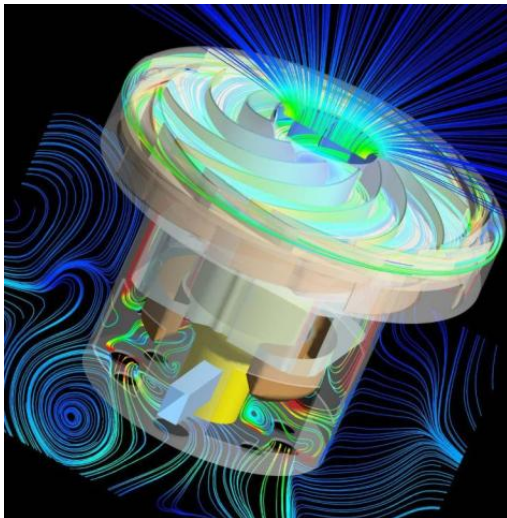
Coburg University  
of Applied Sciences

NASA AMS Seminar  
September 8th, 2015



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- NEED FOR TFD, CFD AND EFD
- CASE STUDY I:  
SLOTTED DIFFUSER
- CASE STUDY II:  
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- CASE STUDY III:  
COMPACT TEST RIG DESIGN

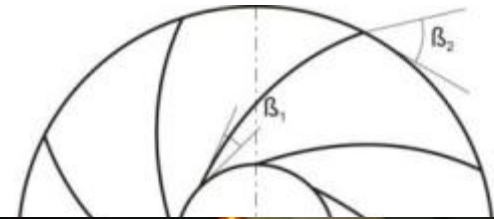
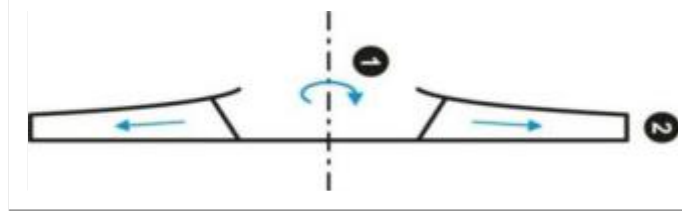




# NEED FOR (TFD AND) CFD AND EFD



$$N = V^P$$

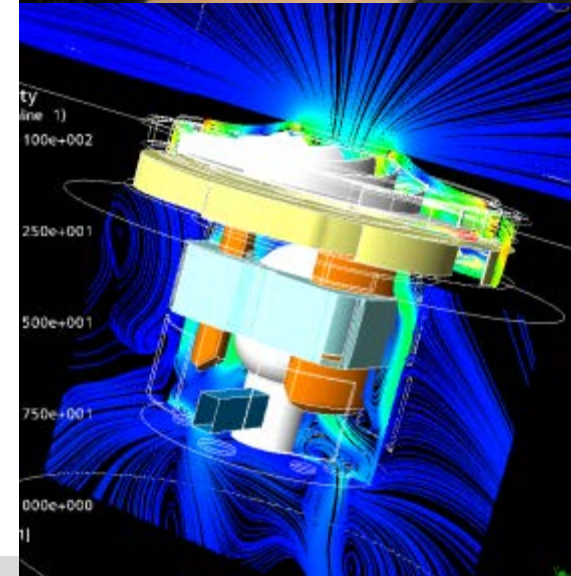


N = number of CFD runs or experiments

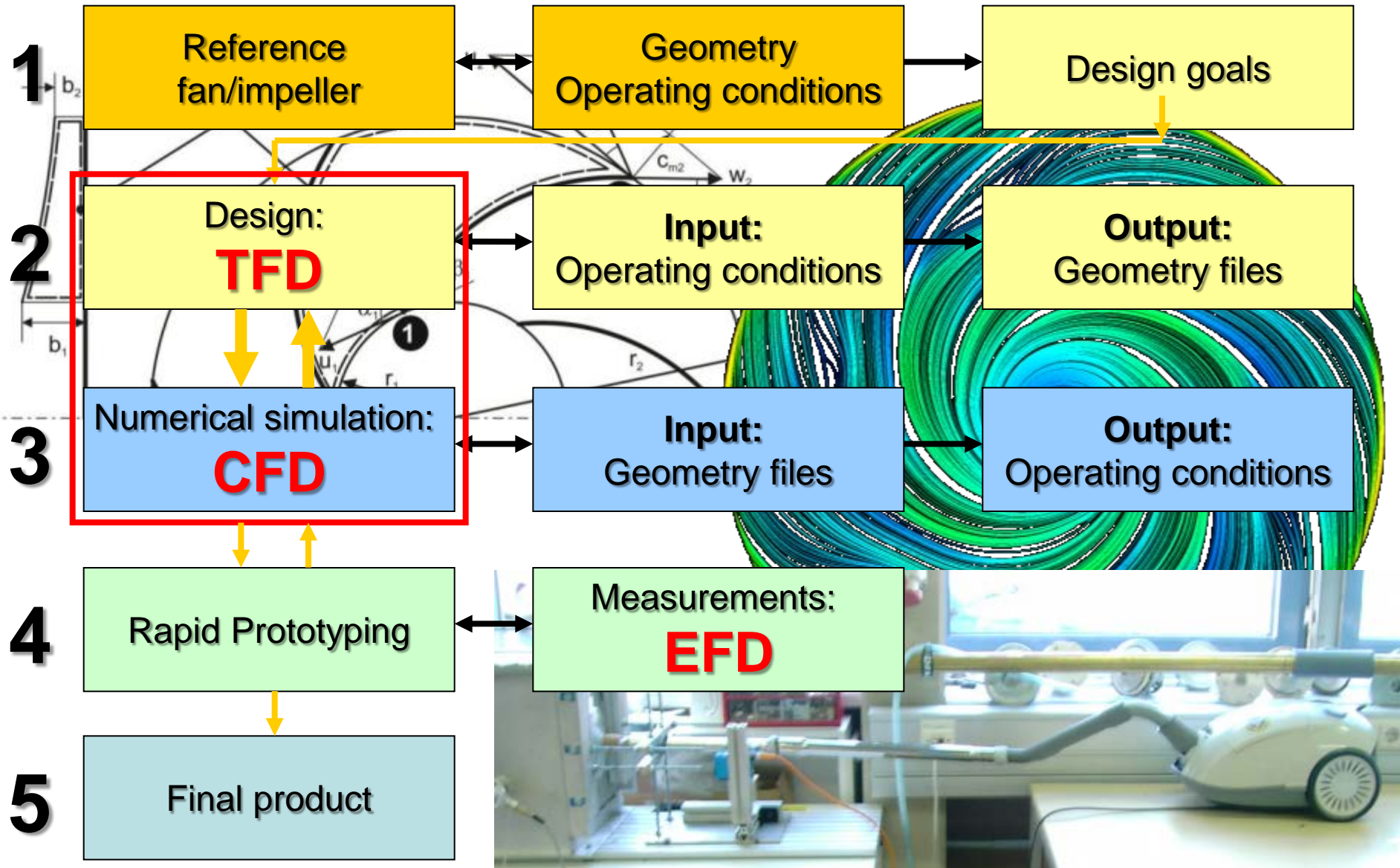
P = number of parameters (e.g. diameter, blade number etc.)

V = number of variations or values for each parameter

V	2	3	4	5
P	N	N	N	N
1	2	3	4	5
2	4	9	16	25
3	8	27	64	125
4	16	81	256	625
5	32	243	1.024	3.125
6	64	729	4.096	15.625
7	128	2.187	16.384	78.125
8	256	6.561	65.536	390.625
9	512	19.683	262.144	1.953.125
10	1.024	59.049	1.048.576	9.765.625



# (TFD)-CFD-EFD INTEGRATED APPROACH







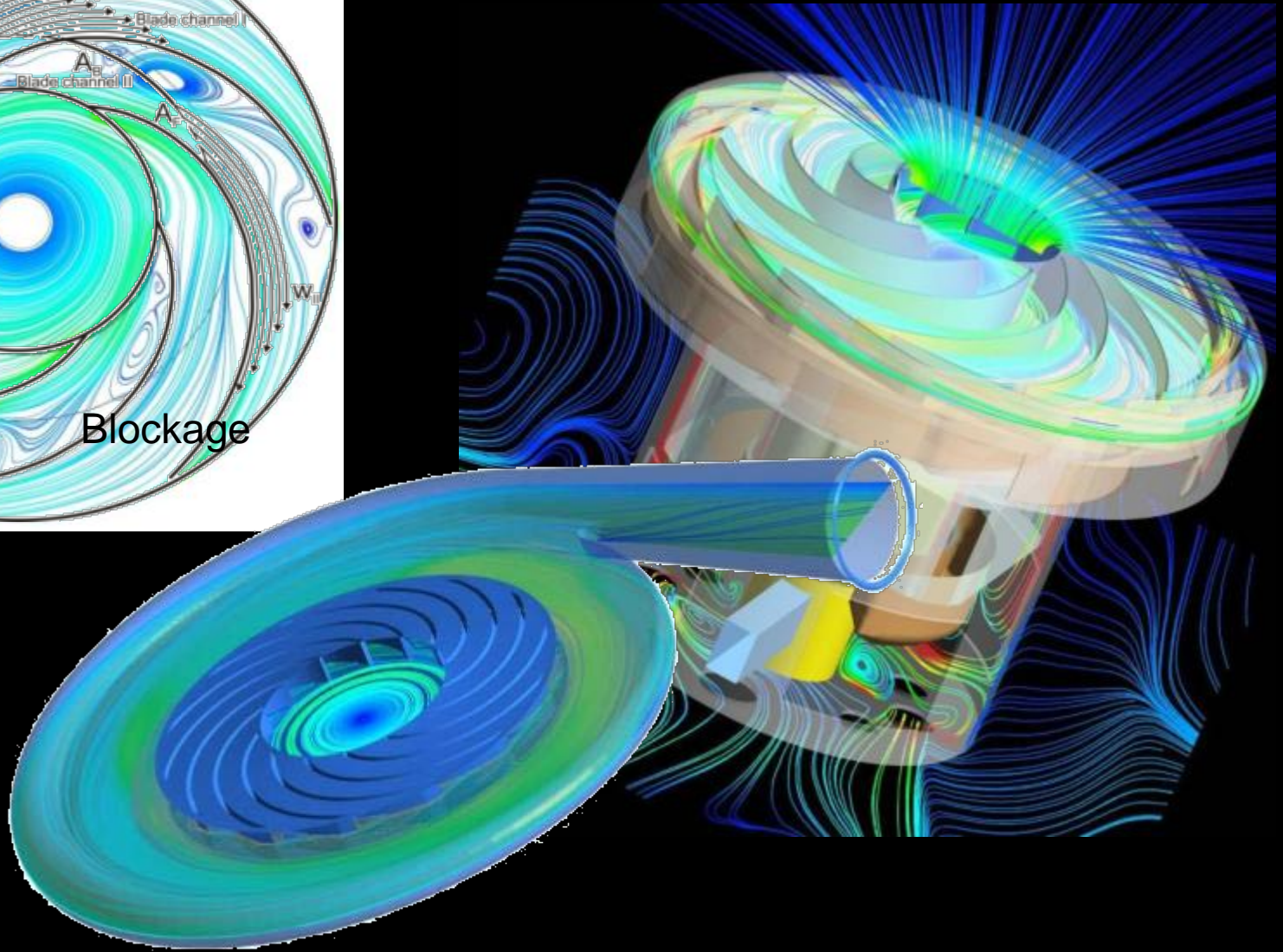


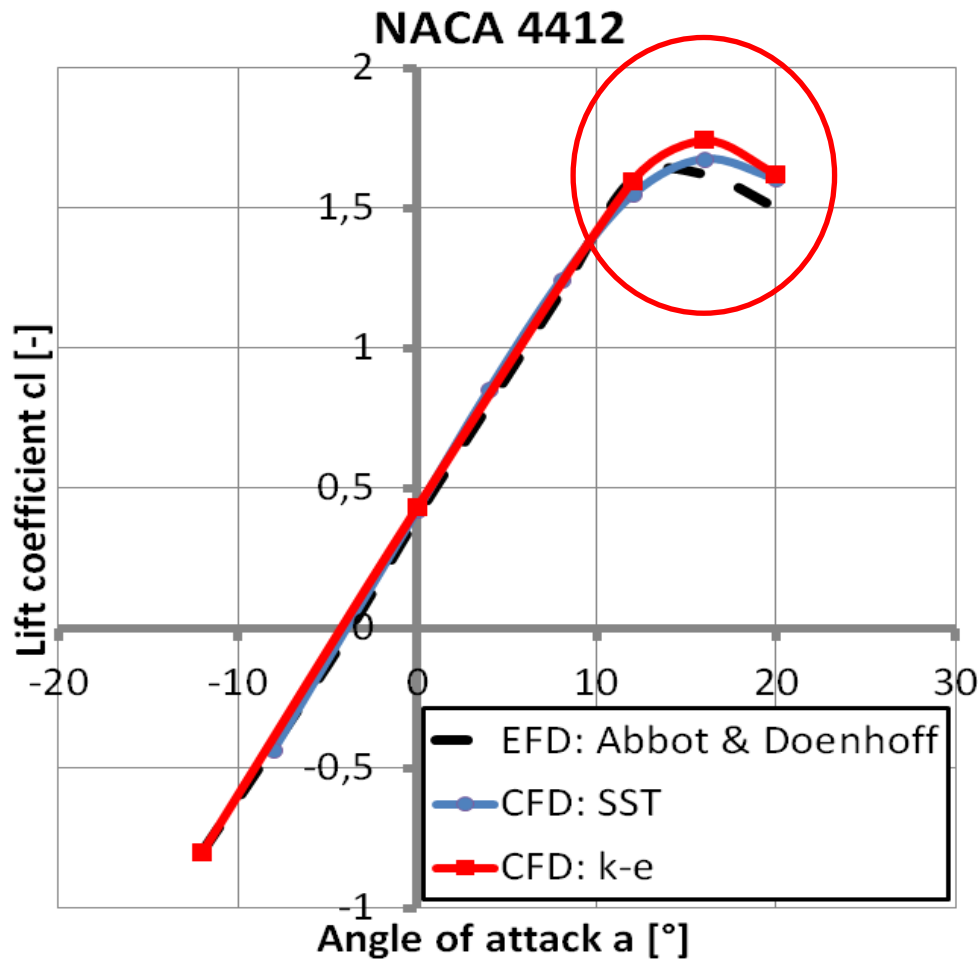
## Emmy Cluster

The RRZE's Emmy cluster ( NEC) is a high-performance compute resource with high speed interconnect. It is intended for distributed-memory (MPI) or hybrid parallel programs with medium to high communication requirements.

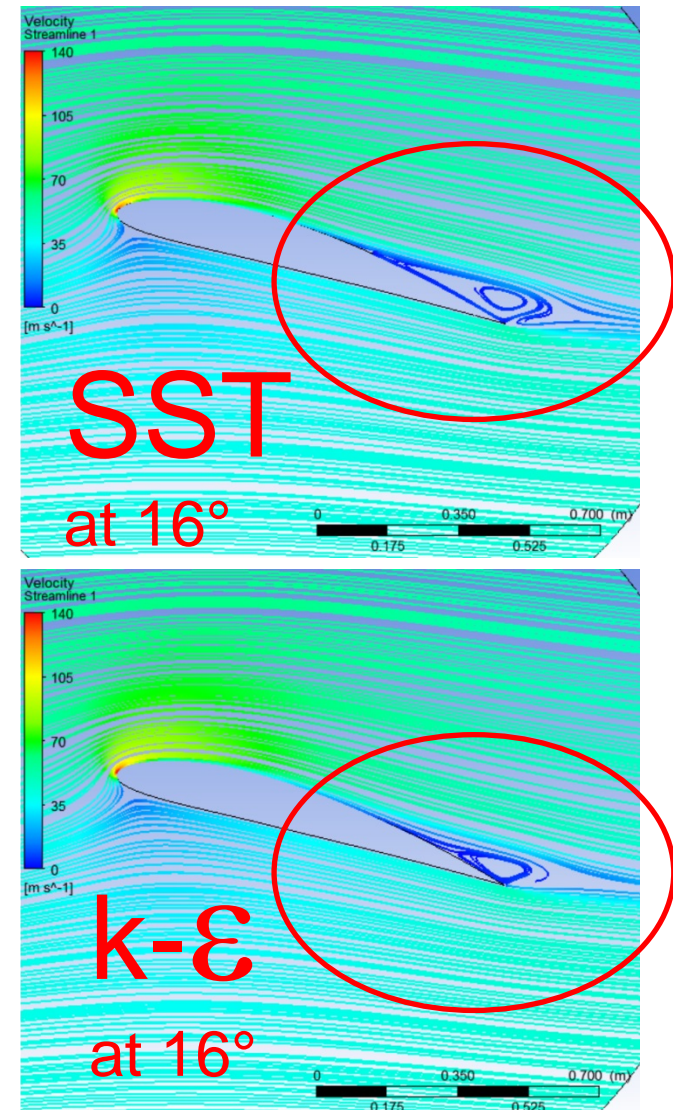
- 560 compute nodes, each with two Xeon 2660v2 "Ivy Bridge" chips (10 cores per chip + SMT) running at 2.2 GHz with 25 MB Shared Cache per chip and 64 GB of RAM
- 2 frontend nodes with the same CPUs as the nodes.
- 16 Intel Xeon Phi coprocessors and 16 Nvidia K20 GPGPUs spread over 16 compute nodes
- parallel filesystem (LXFS) with capacity of 400 TB and an aggregated parallel I/O bandwidth of > 7000 MB/s
- Infiniband interconnect fabric with 40 Gbit/s bandwidth per link and direction
- Overall peak performance of ca. 234 TFlop/s (191 TFlop/s LINPACK, using only the CPUs).
- November 2013 on rank 210 of the Top500 list of the most powerful supercomputers worldwide



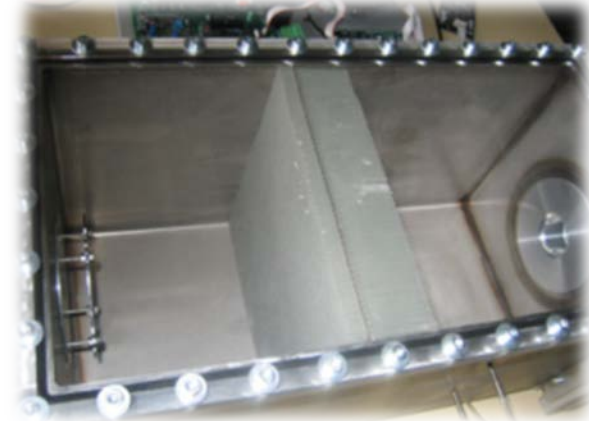
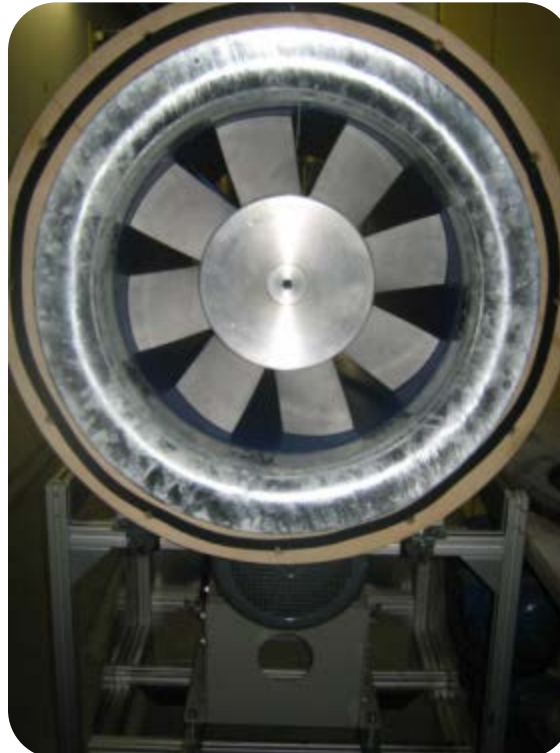
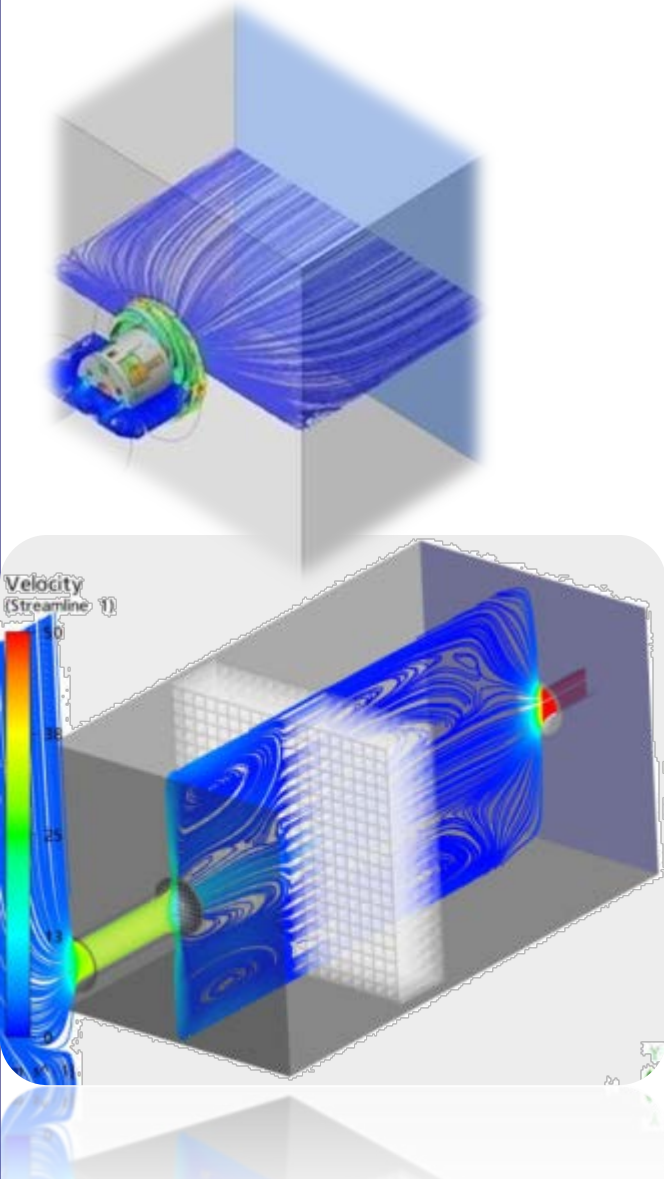




Different results especially near flow detachment or stall.



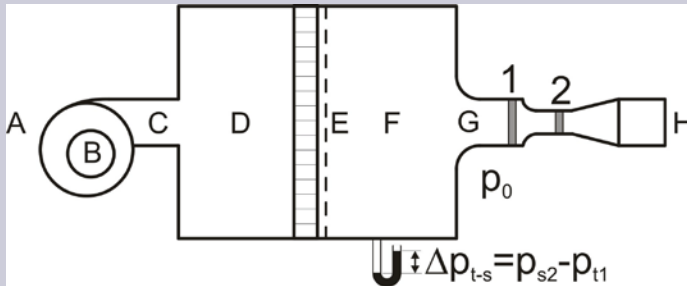




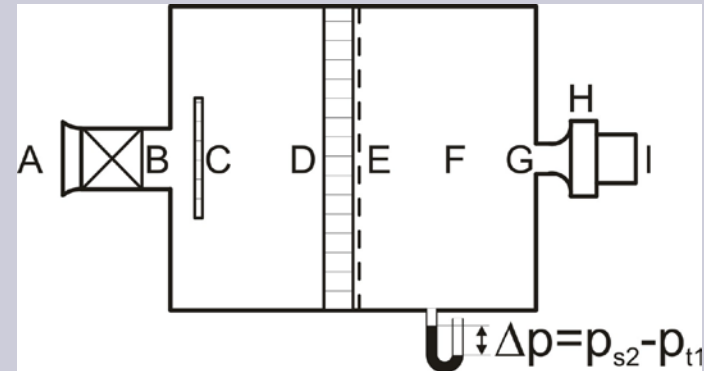
# PRESSURE SIDE AND SUCTION SIDE TEST RIGS



## Pressure side



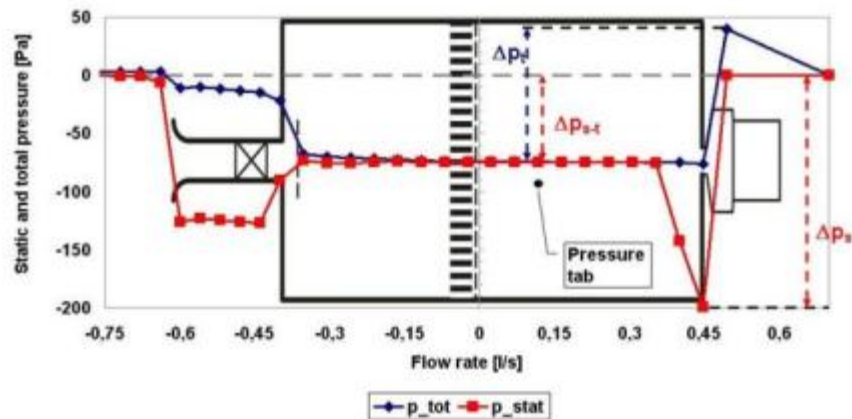
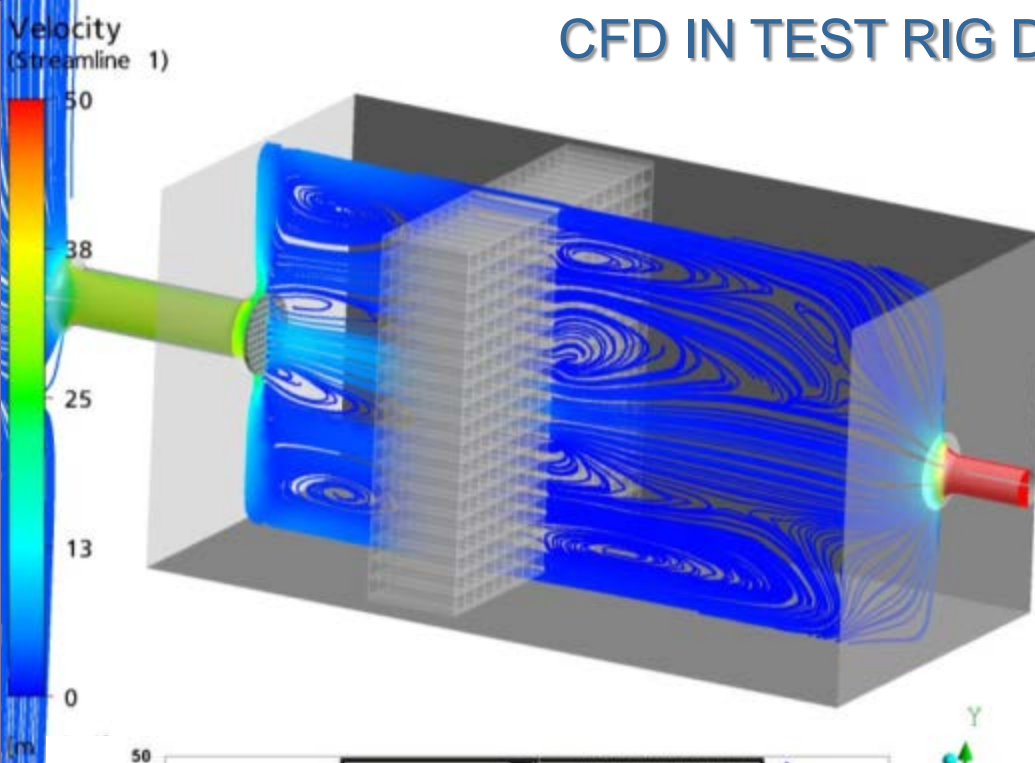
## Suction side



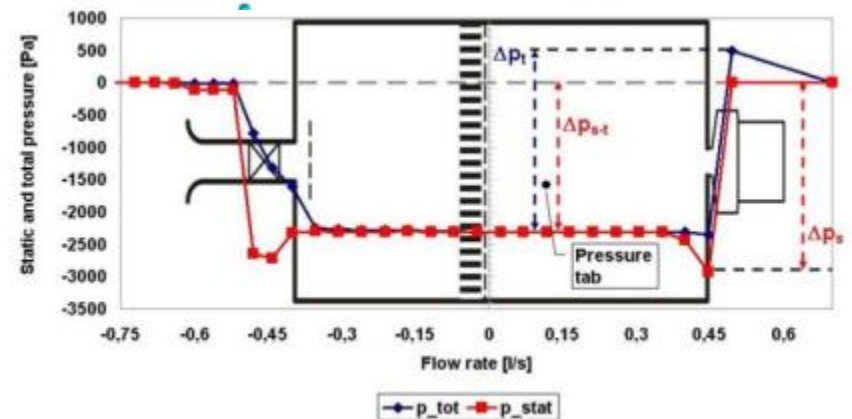
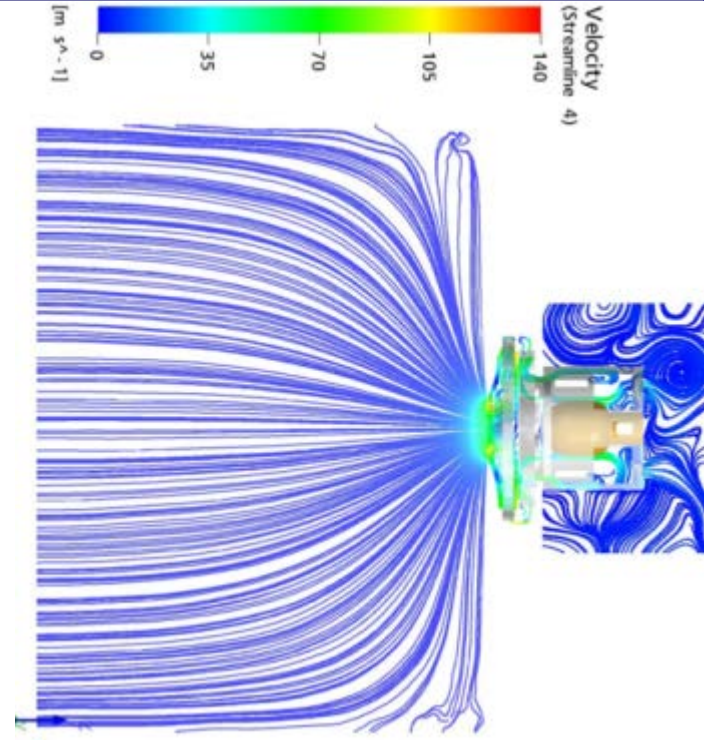
Fan and Blower Test Rig



# CFD IN TEST RIG DESIGN

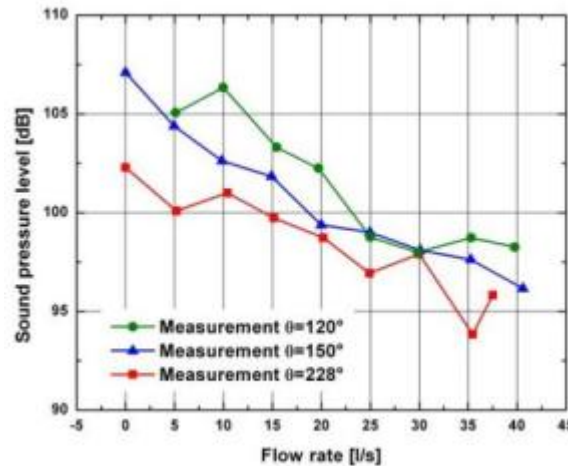
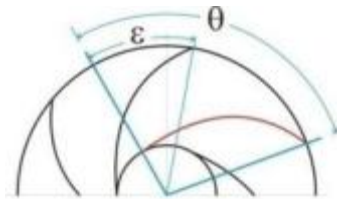
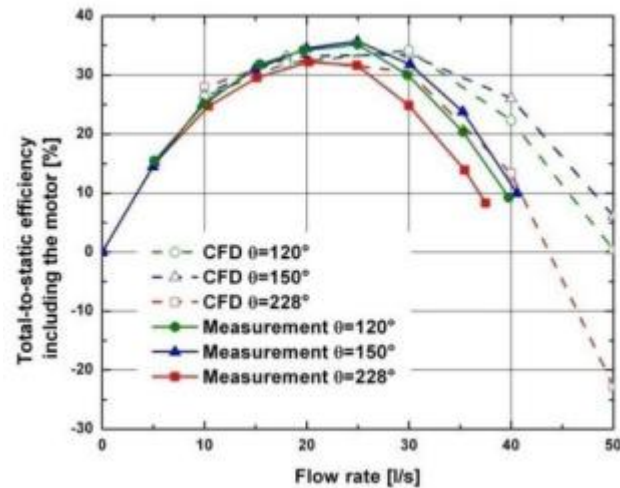
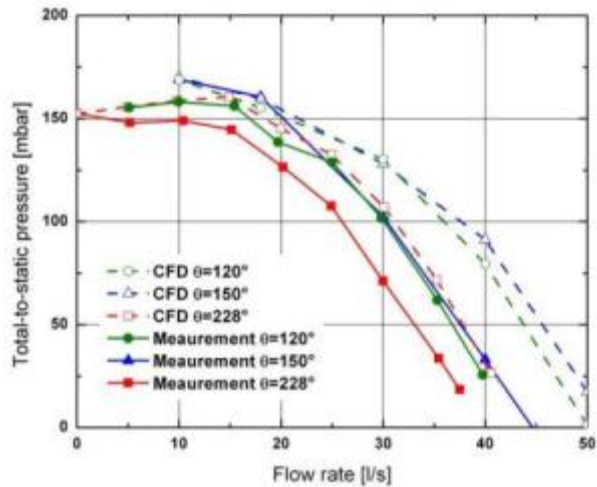


Open throttle



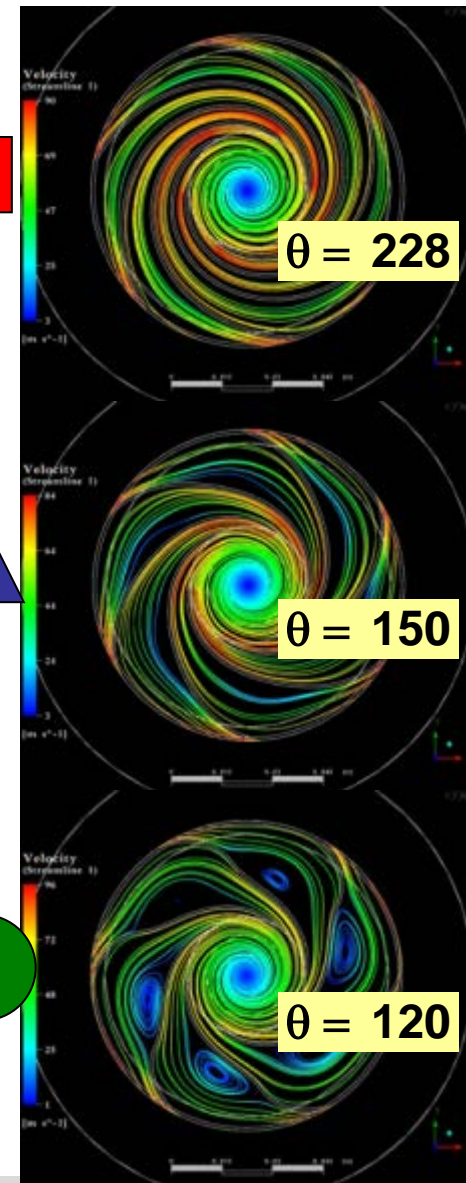
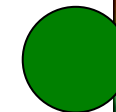
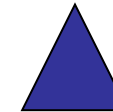
Partially closed throttle

CFD helping to build better test rigs



Inlet diameter	$d_1$	34 [mm]
Outer diameter	$d_2$	90 [mm]
Inlet height	$b_1$	14 [mm]
Outlet height	$b_2$	5 [mm]
Inlet angle	$\beta_1$	15 [°]
Outlet angle	$\beta_2$	20 [°]
Blade thickness	$s$	0,8 [mm]
Blades	$z$	6

Table : Impeller main dimensions

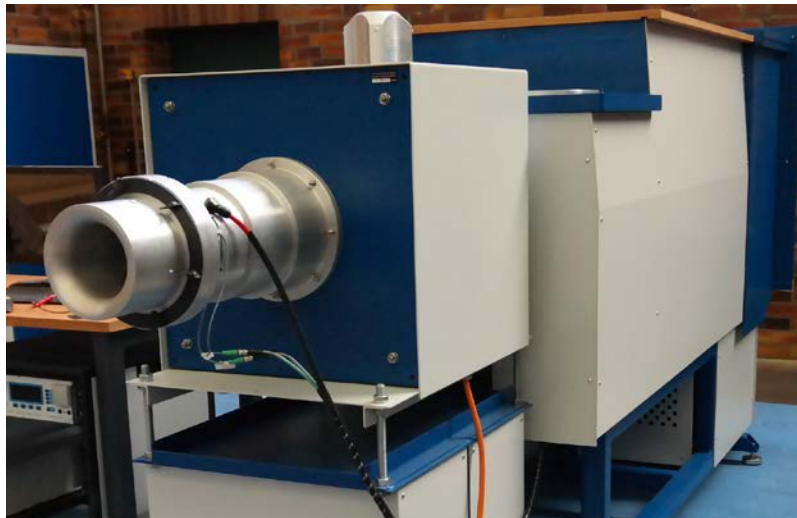
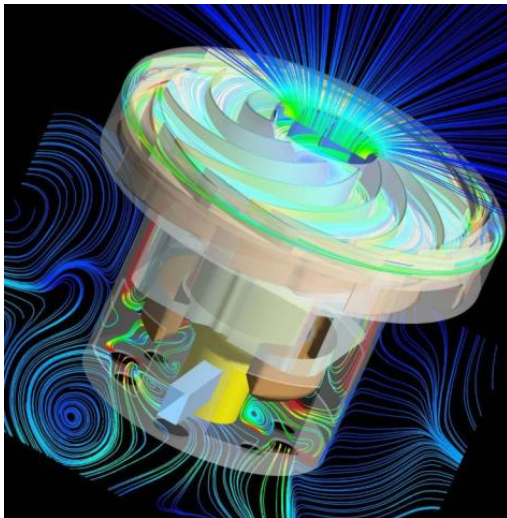




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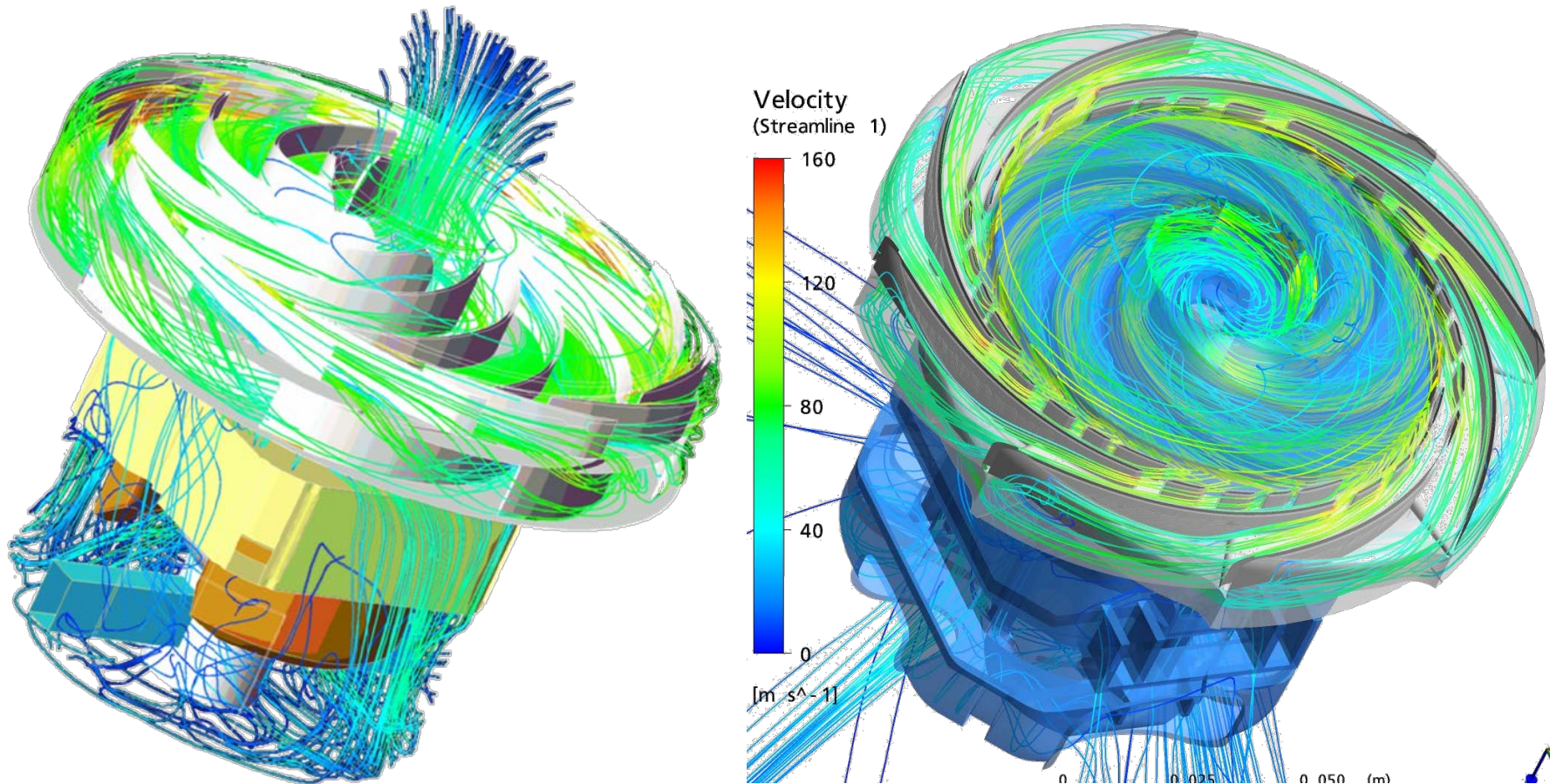
- NEED FOR TFD, CFD AND EFD
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## Case study I

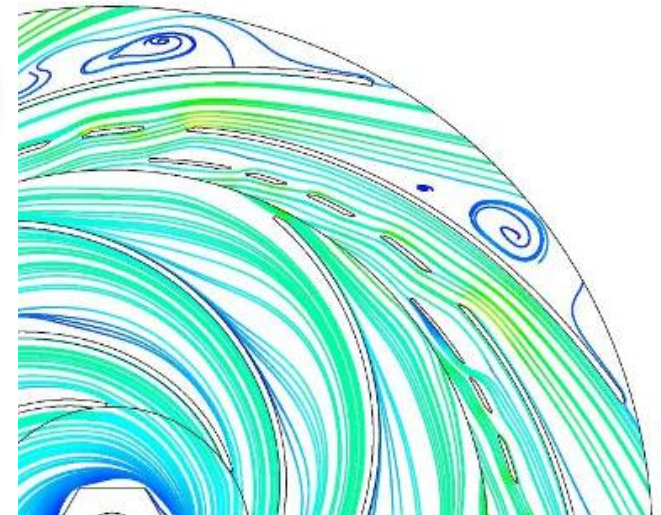
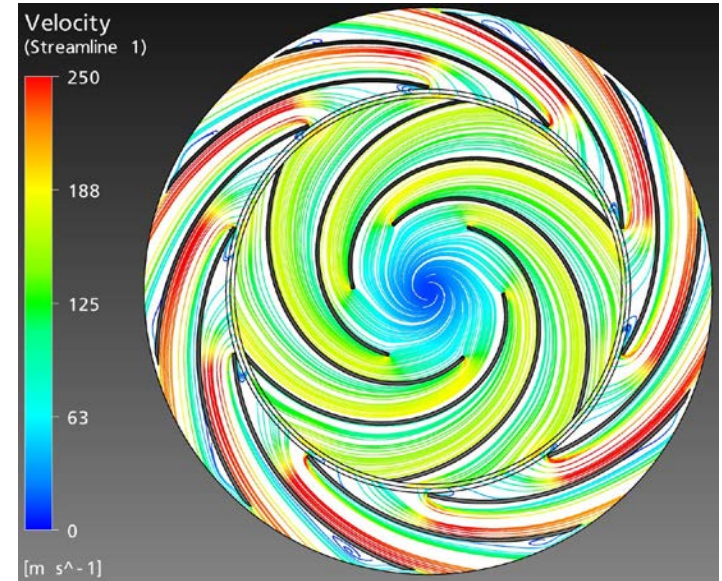
# THE INFLUENCE OF SLOTTED GUIDE VANES ON THE PERFORMANCE OF RADIAL DIFFUSERS



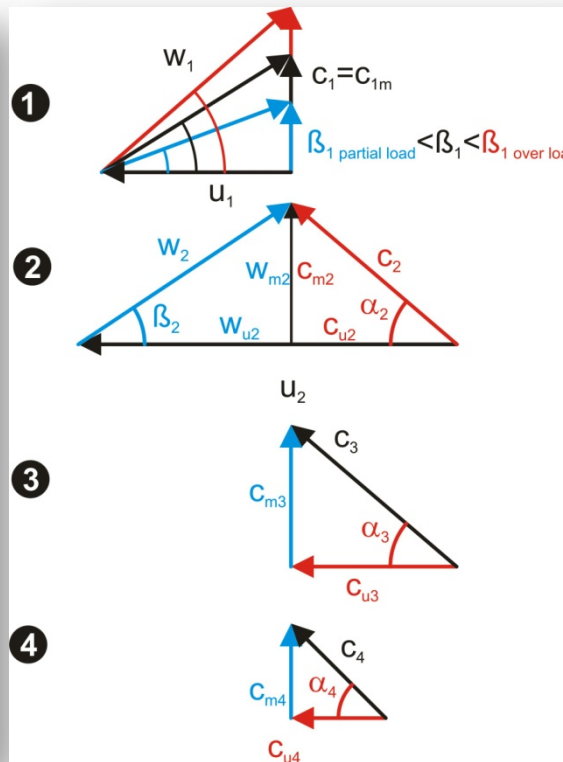
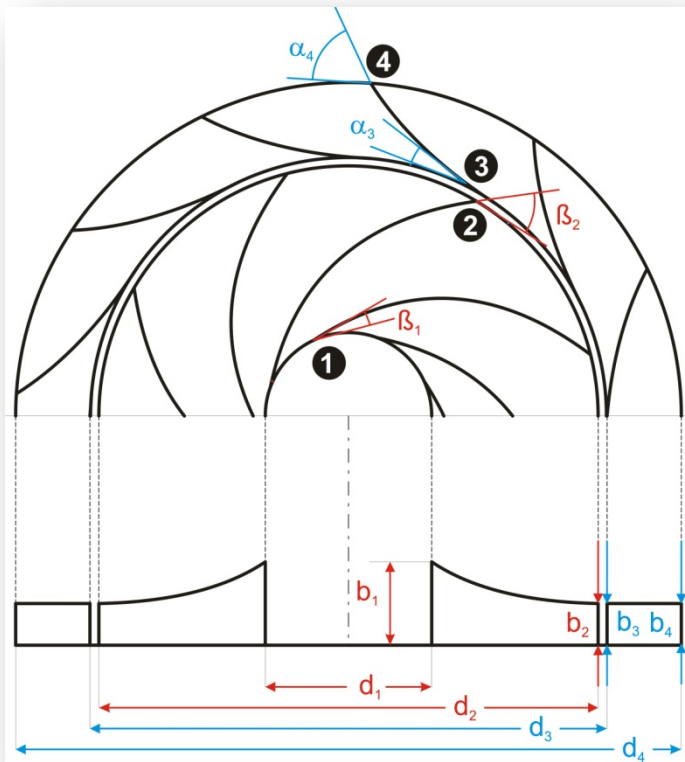


# Contents

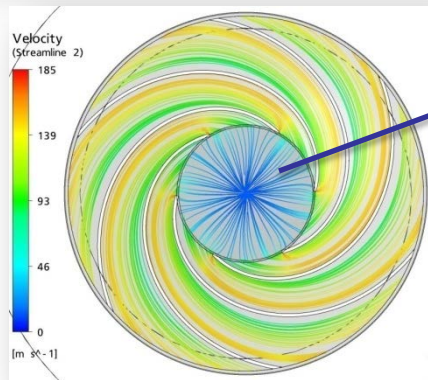
1. Diffuser working principles
2. Impeller flow regimes
3. Diffuser flow regimes and choking - examples
4. Working principle of slotted vanes
5. CFD verification
6. Measurements
7. Results and conclusions







- 1** Impeller inlet:  
 $u_1$ : inlet peripheral velocity  
 $c_1$ : inlet absolute velocity  
 $c_{m1}$ : inlet meridian absolute velocity  
 $w_1$ : inlet relative velocity  
 $w_{m1}$ : inlet meridian relative velocity  
 $w_{u1}$ : inlet peripheral relative velocity  
 $\beta_1$ : inlet blade angle  
 $\gamma_1$ : inlet flow angle
- 2** Impeller outlet:  
 $u_2$ : outlet peripheral velocity  
 $c_2$ : outlet absolute velocity  
 $c_{m2}$ : outlet meridian absolute velocity  
 $c_{u2}$ : outlet peripheral absolute velocity  
 $w_2$ : outlet relative velocity  
 $w_{m2}$ : outlet meridian relative velocity  
 $w_{u2}$ : outlet peripheral relative velocity  
 $\alpha_2$ : outlet absolute flow angle  
 $\beta_2$ : outlet blade angle
- 3** Diffuser inlet:  
 $c_3$ : inlet absolute velocity  
 $c_{m3}$ : inlet meridian absolute velocity  
 $\alpha_3$ : inlet absolute flow angle
- 4** Diffuser outlet:  
 $c_4$ : inlet absolute velocity  
 $c_{m4}$ : inlet meridian absolute velocity  
 $\alpha_4$ : inlet absolute flow angle



Radial entry

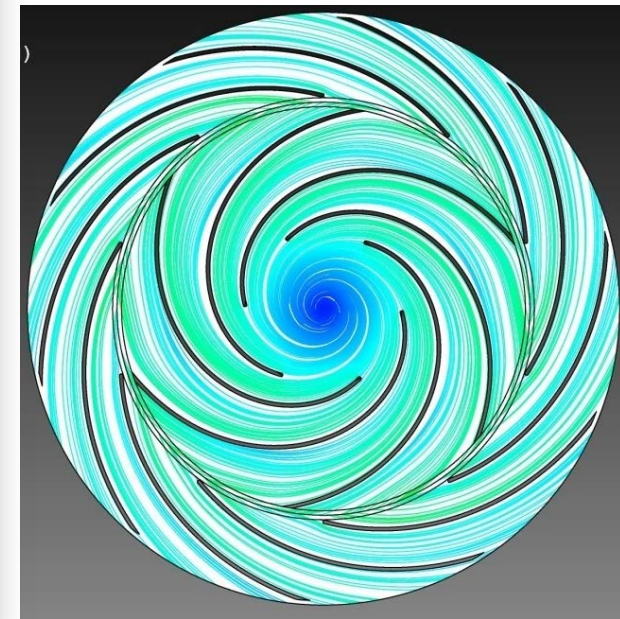
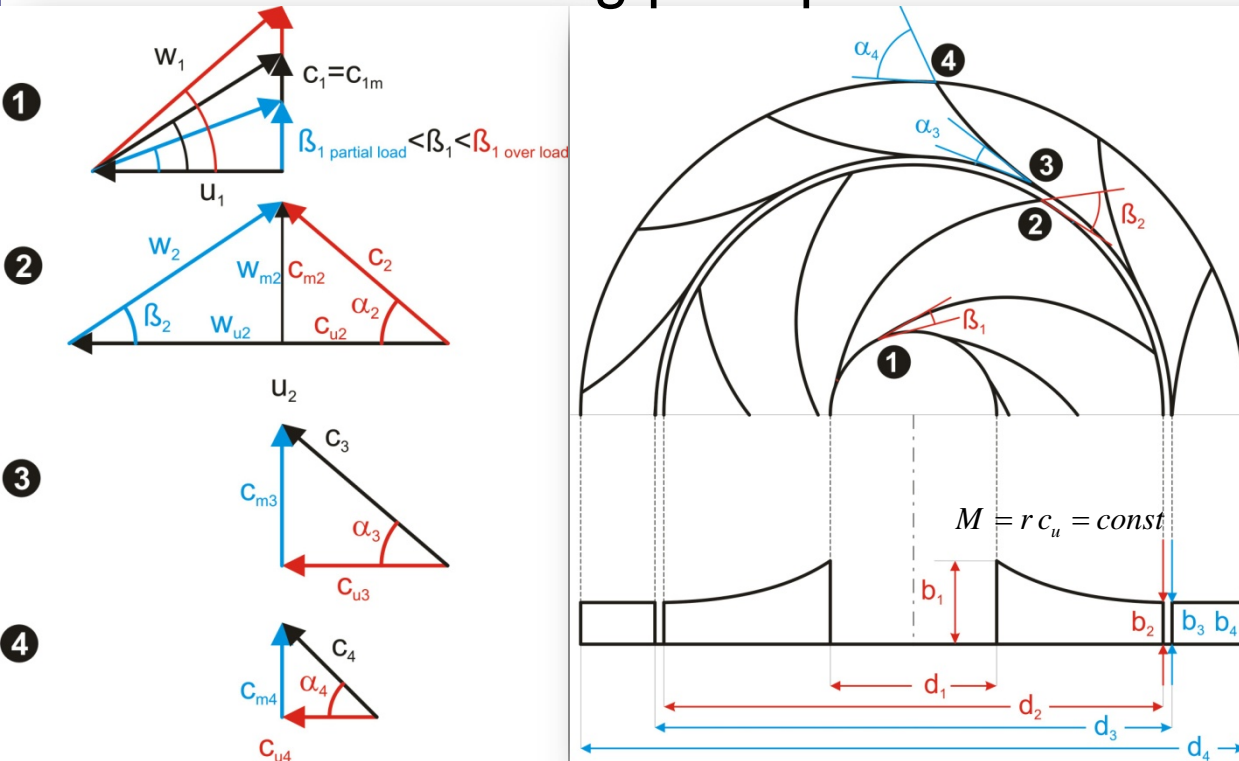
$$\vec{c} = \vec{w} + \vec{u}$$

absolute velocity

relative velocity

peripheral velocity

Velocity triangles

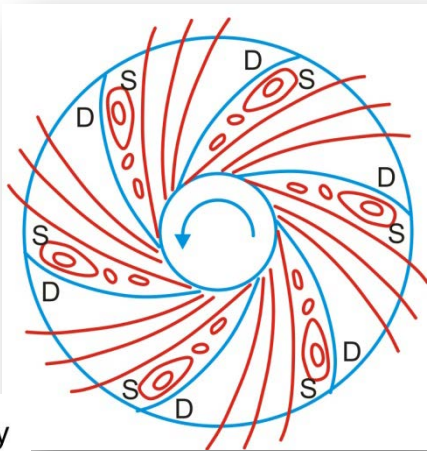


In a diffuser, the pressure increase occurs for two reasons:

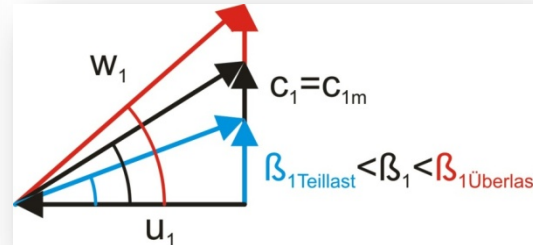
- 1) All diffusers: due to an area increase and hence due to a reduction in the meridian velocity  $c_m$
- 2) Vaneless diffuser: due to reduction of the tangential velocity component  $c_u$  due to the radius increase due to constant angular momentum  $M = r c_u = \text{const}$
- 3) Vaned diffusers: Different as with the vaneless diffuser, in the vaned diffuser one can reduce the tangential velocity component  $c_u$  up to zero, i.e. one can recover all the swirl into static pressure.



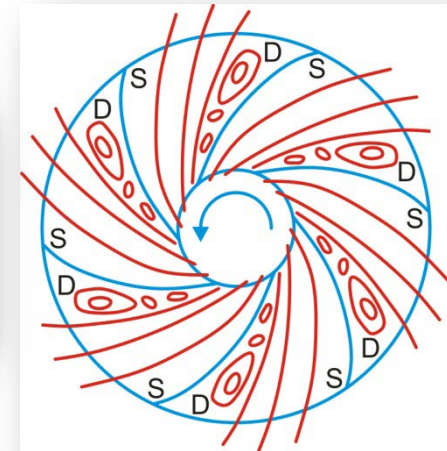
# Flow Regimes for the Impeller only



Low flow  $Q < Q_0$

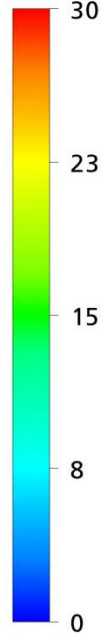


Nominal flow  $Q_0$

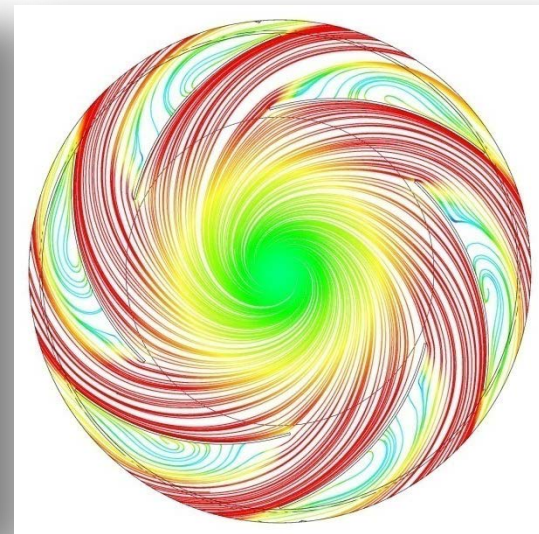
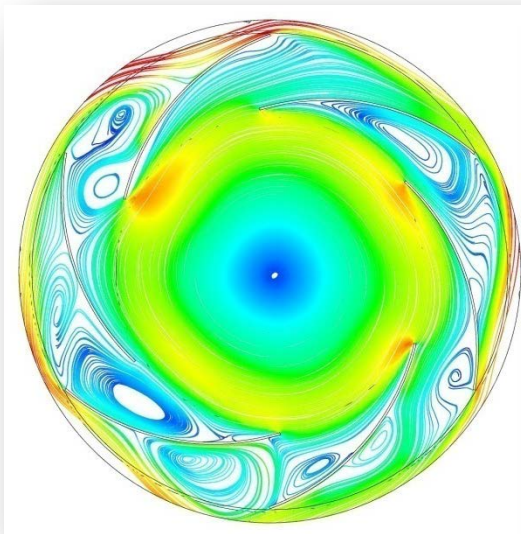


High flow  $Q > Q_0$

Velocity  
(Streamline)

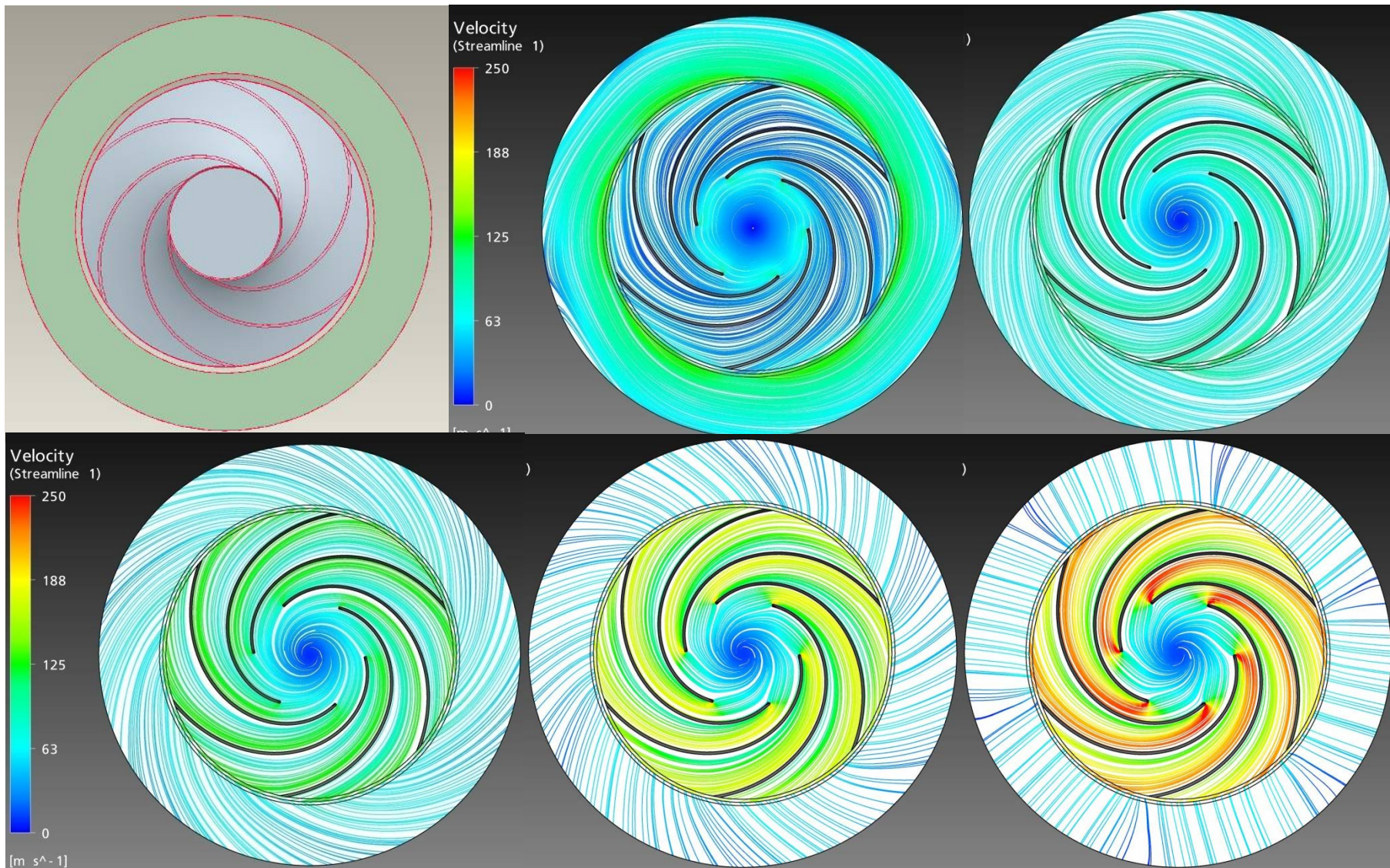


[m s<sup>-1</sup>]



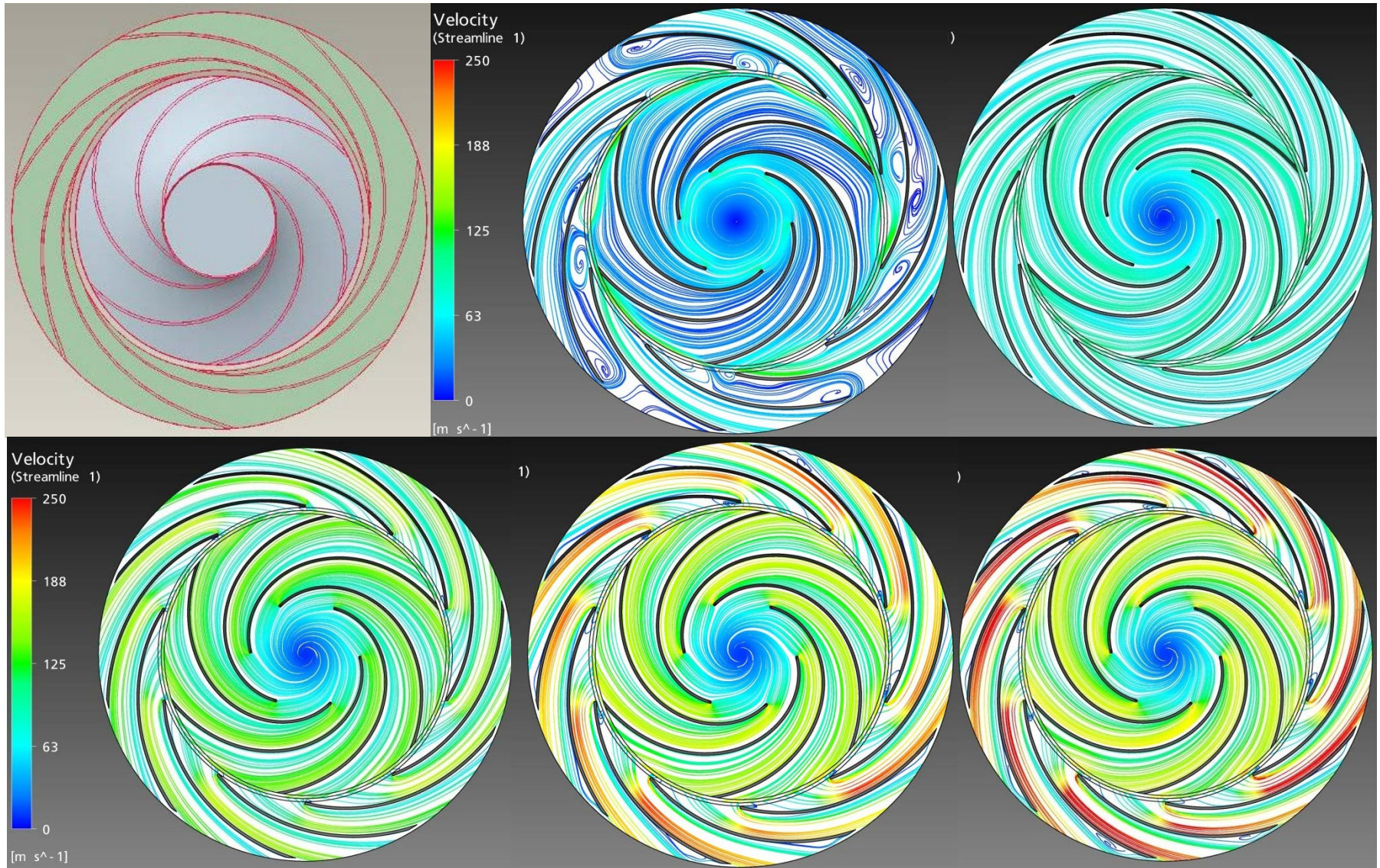


# Vaneless Diffuser



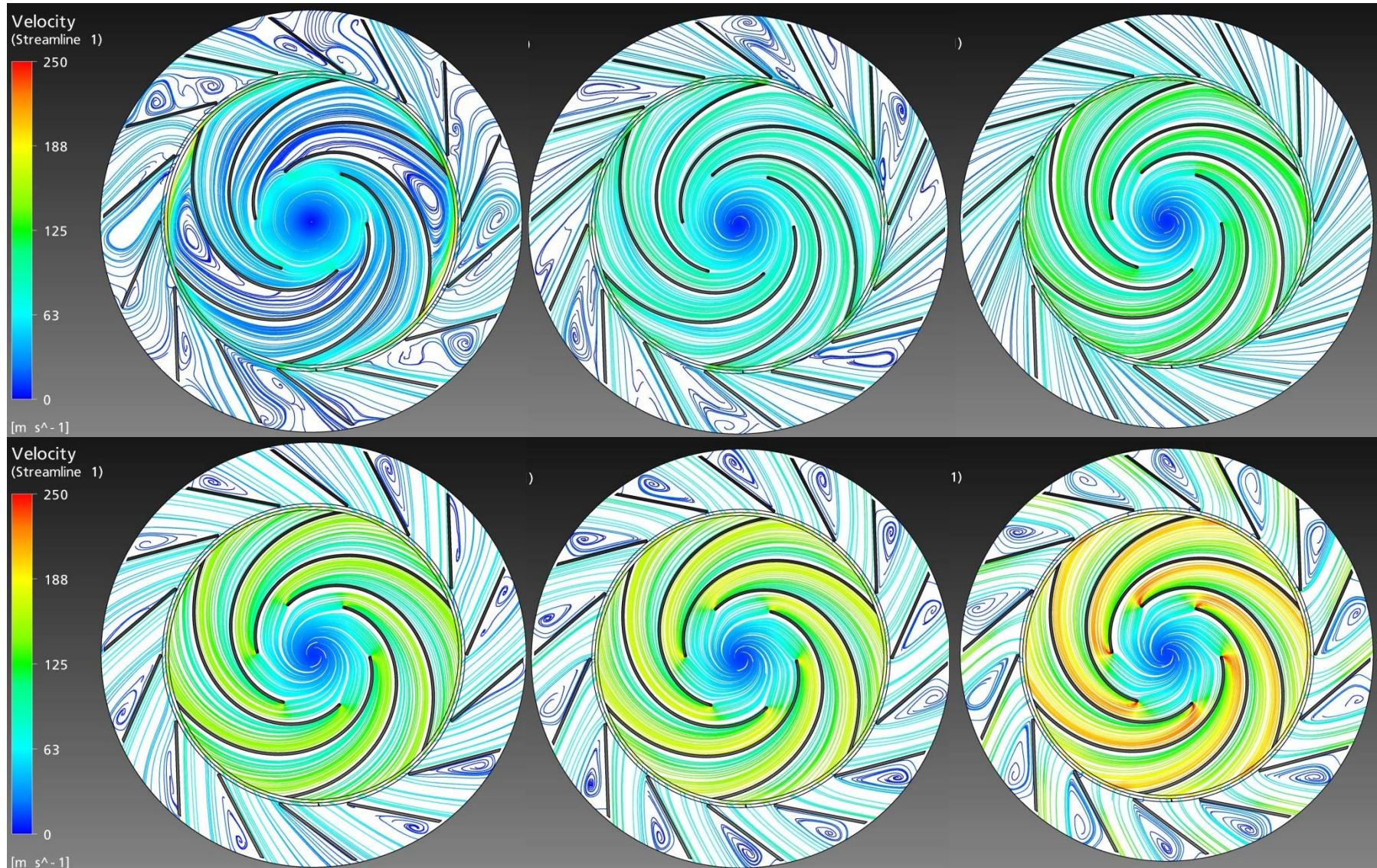


# Vaned logarithmic Diffuser



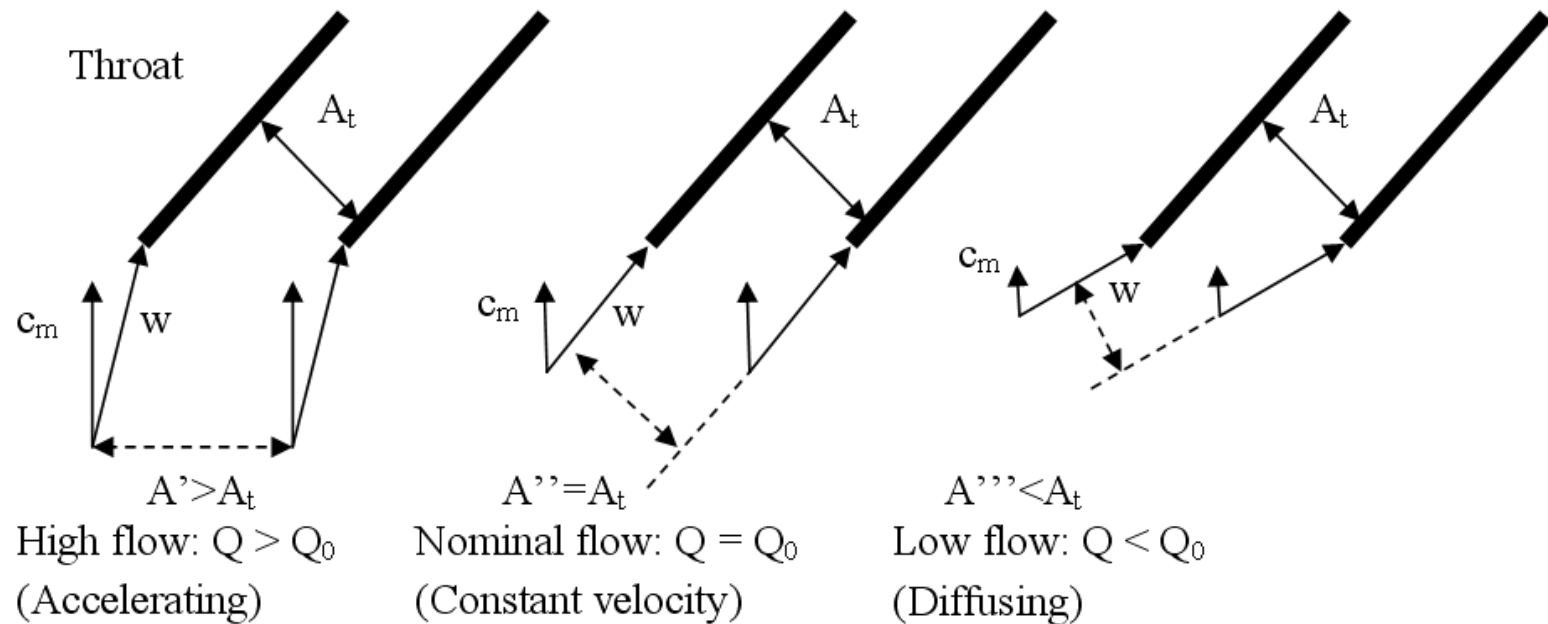
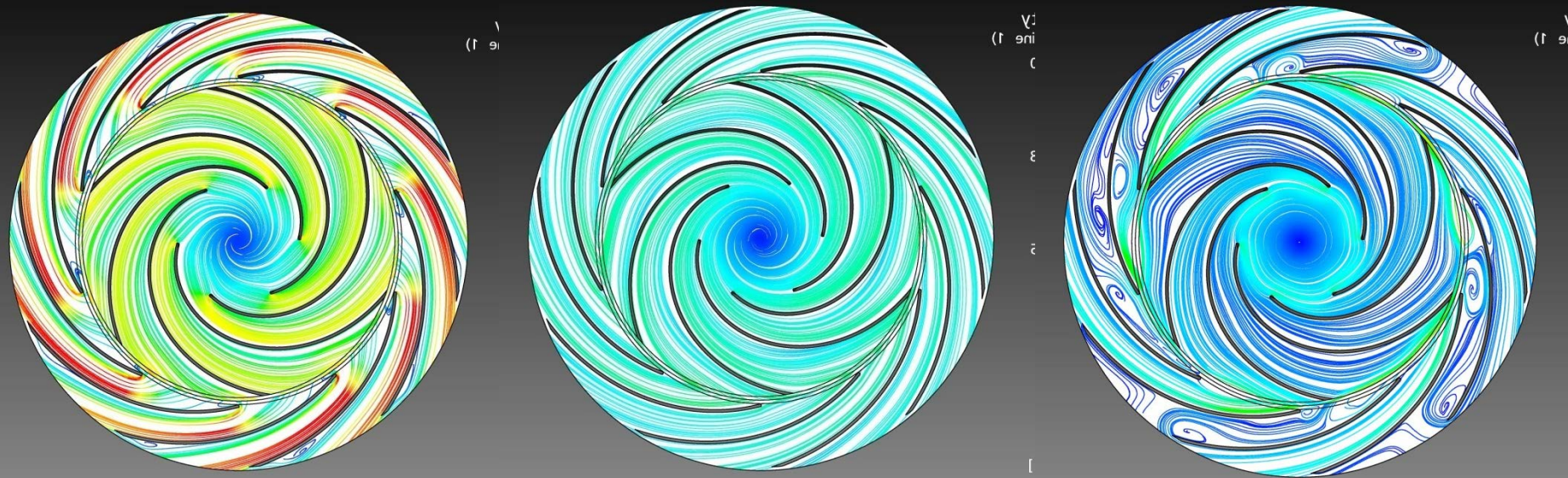


# Vaned straight Diffuser

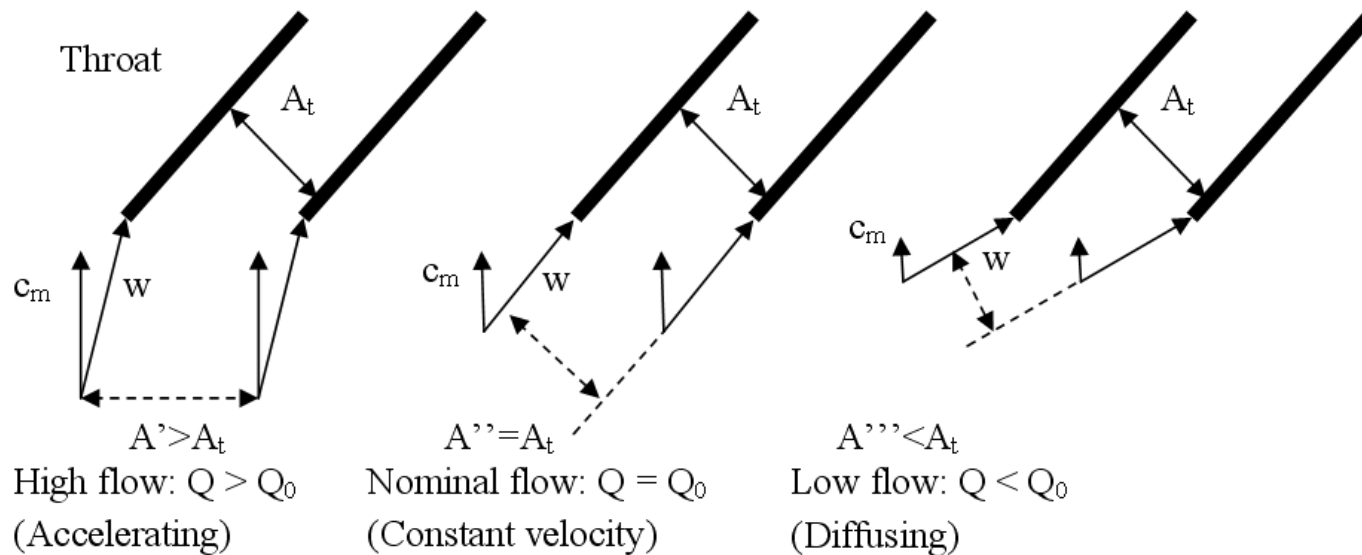
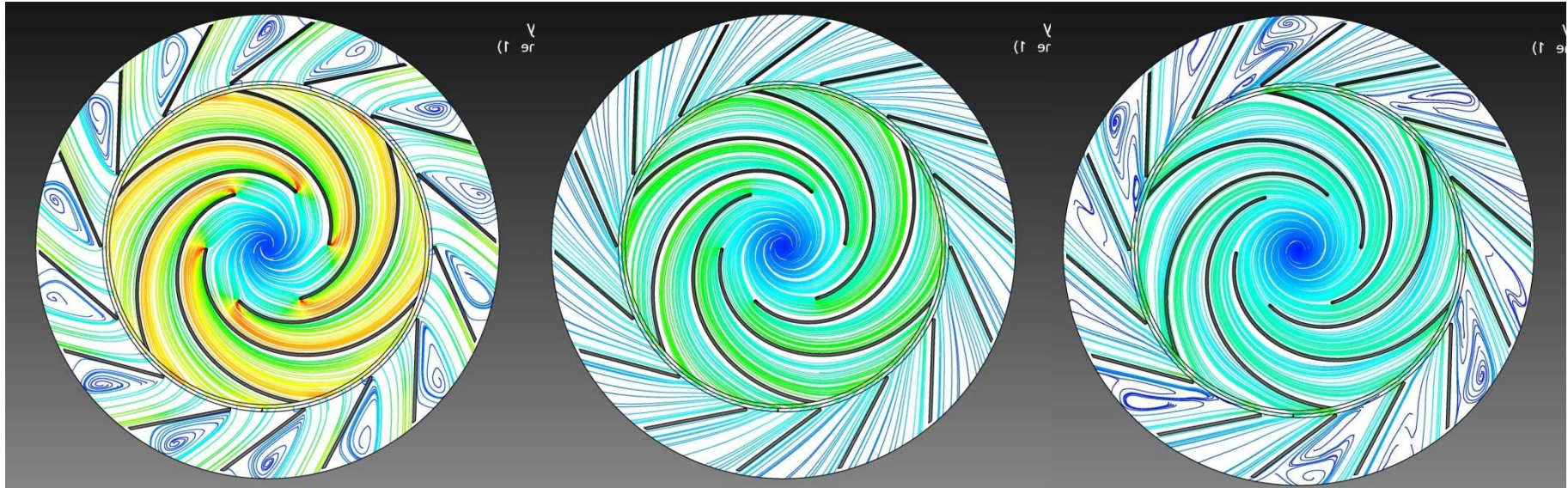




# The choked diffuser

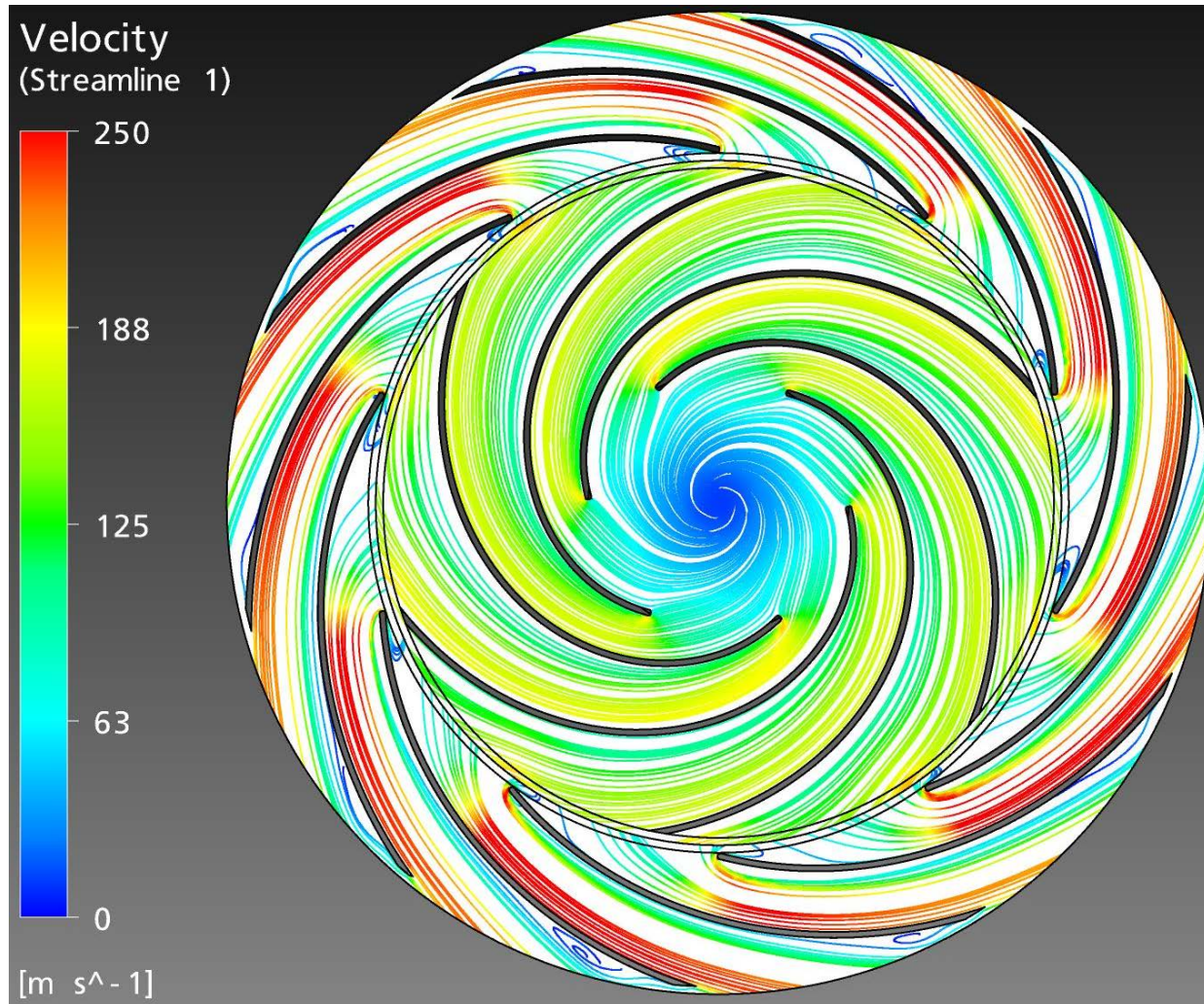


# The choked diffuser

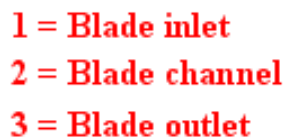




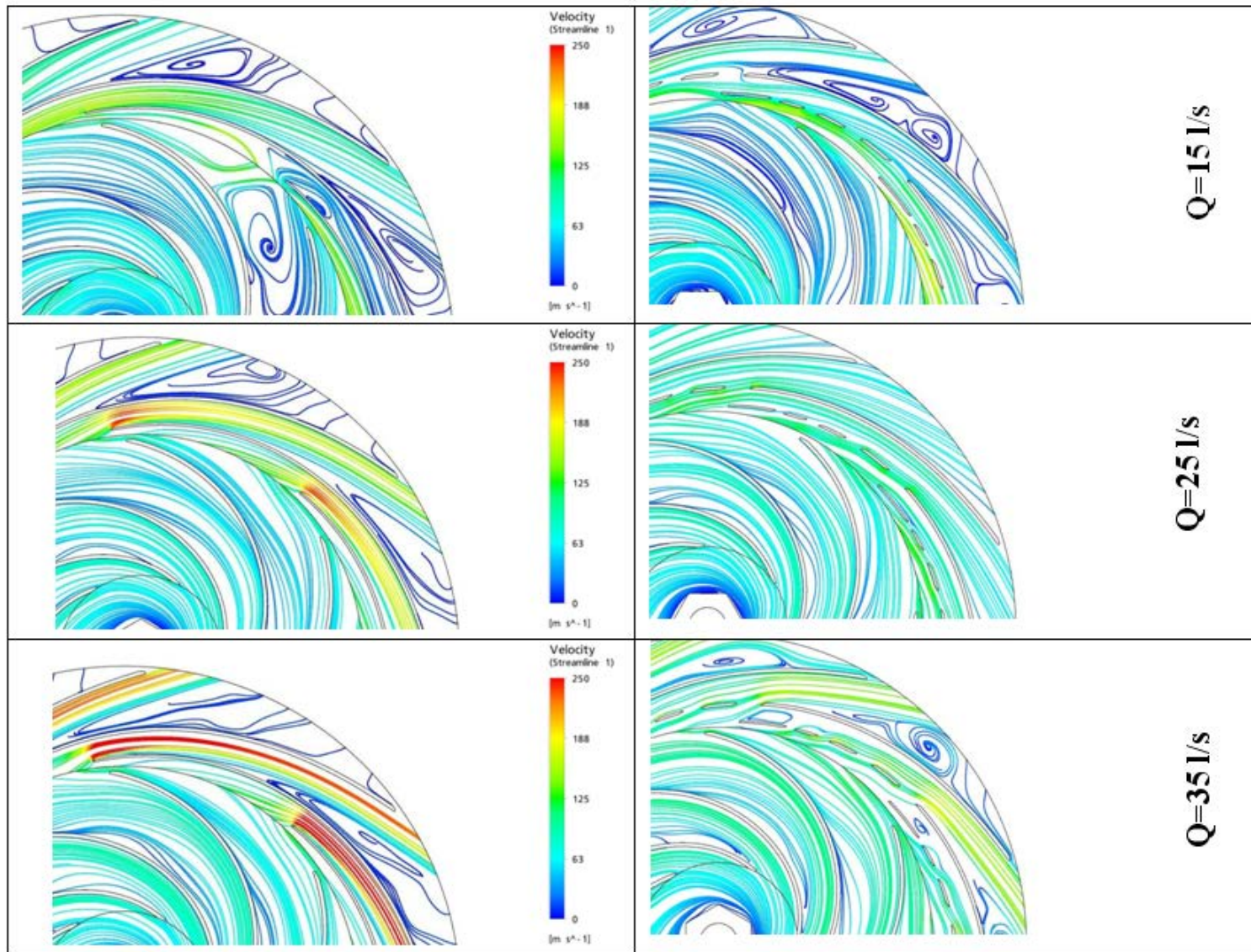
# Solution for the choked diffuser?

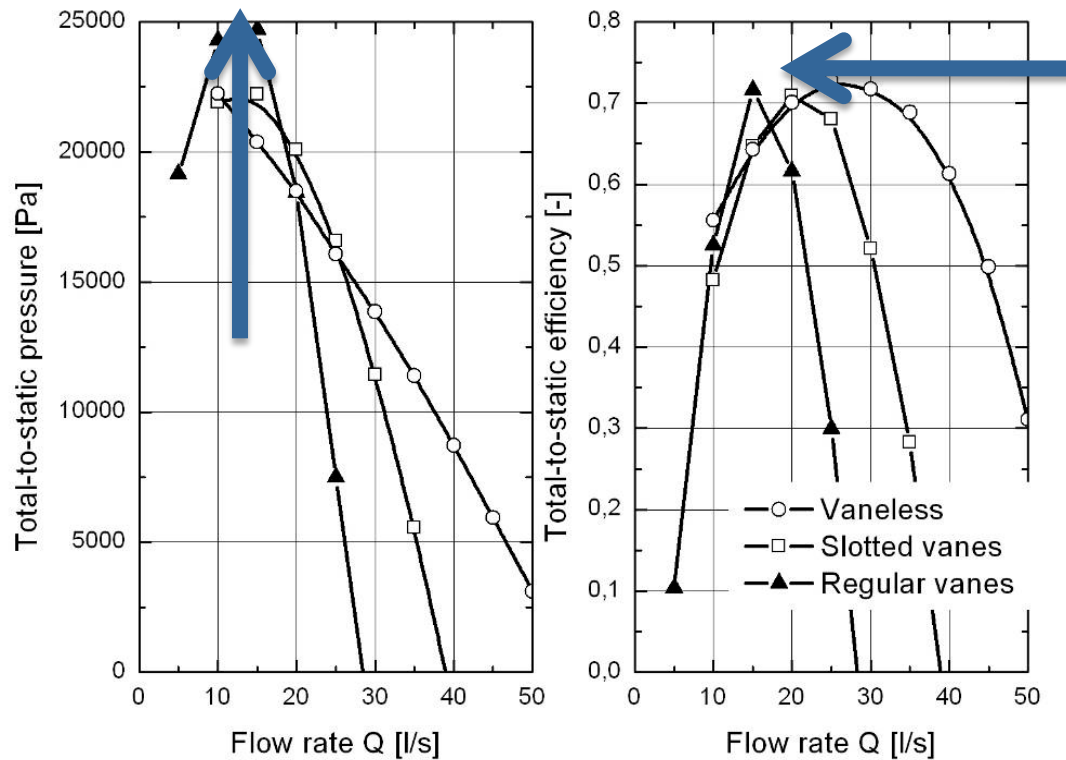


With the slots, higher flow rates are possible without choking the diffuser. In practice, instead of a single slot per blade, it has proved favourable to have four slots distributed in the inlet region of the diffuser blades.





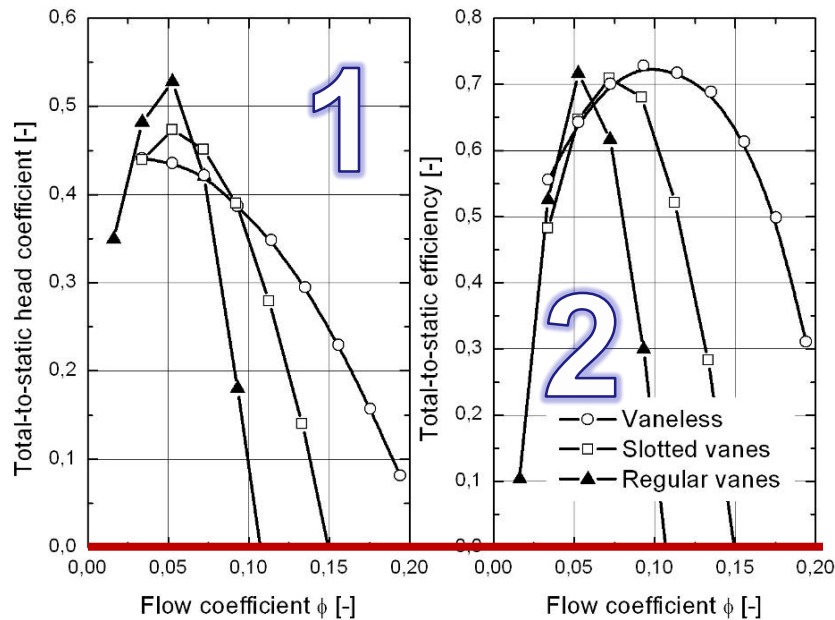




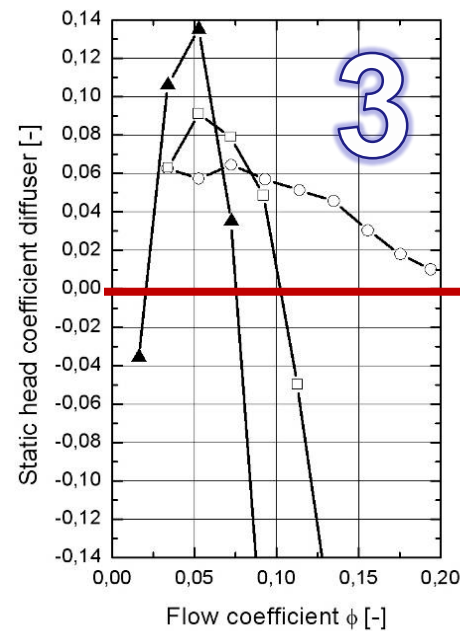
	<i>Pressure</i>	<i>Flow rate</i>	<i>Efficiency maximum</i>
<i>vaneless</i>	low	high	at high flow rates
<i>slotted vanes</i>	medium	medium	at medium flow rates
<i>regular vanes</i>	high	low	at low flow rates



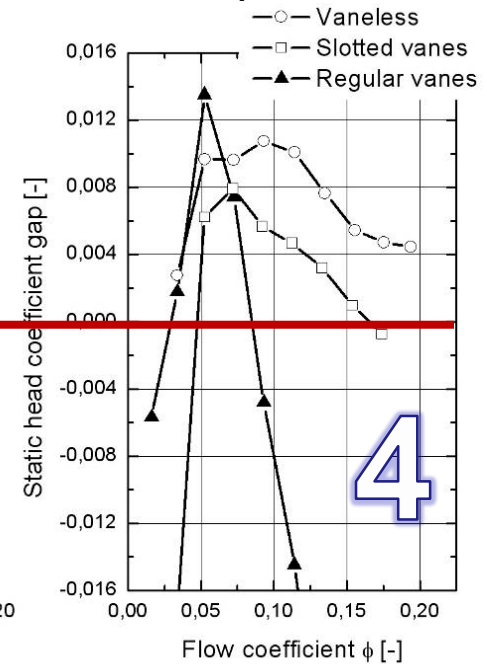
## Impeller & Diffuser



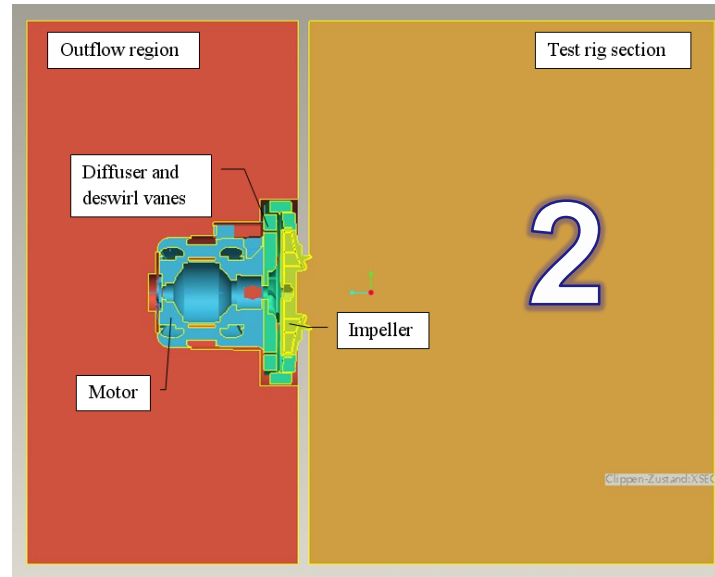
## Diffuser



## Gap



1. Static head coefficient (SHC) in the diffuser only (3)
2. SHC in the gap between the impeller and the diffuser (4).
3. The vaneless diffuser always has positive SHC in the diffuser and in the gap (3 & 4)
4. The vaned diffusers have the highest values of SHC at the design point at a flow coefficient of 0.05
5. The regular vaned diffuser (no slots) being the best at this point
6. The losses in the gap are the reason why the maximum efficiency of the IDU with vaned diffusers, regular and slotted, are not higher then the IDU with the vaneless diffuser.



CAD Model:

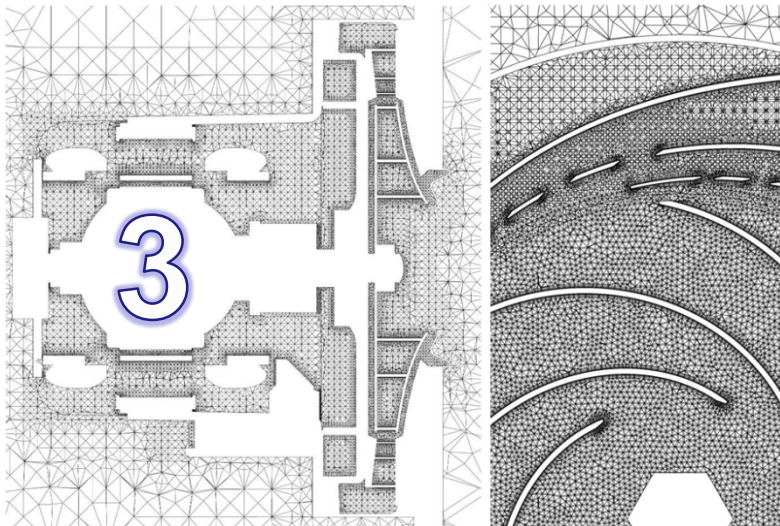
- 1) Fan
- 2) Full flow domain

Turbulence Model:

SST

Solver:

ANSYS CFX



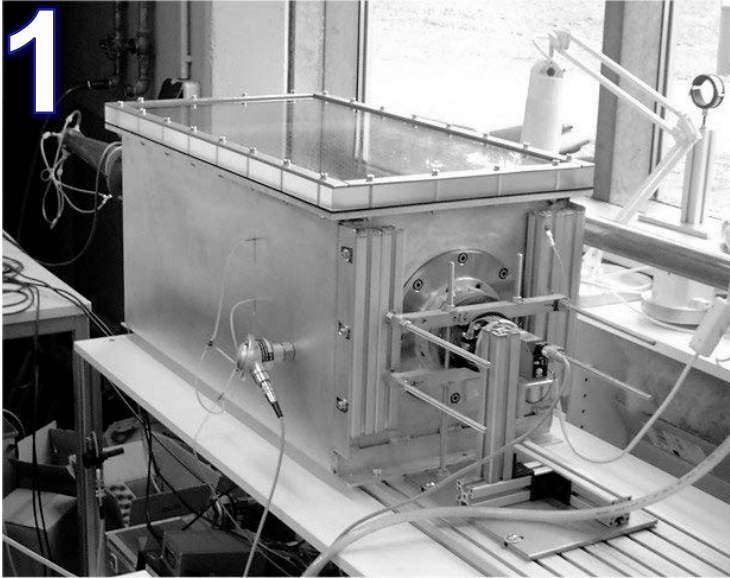
Unstructured tetrahedral grid:

- 3) Fan and impeller-diffuser unit
- 4) Size

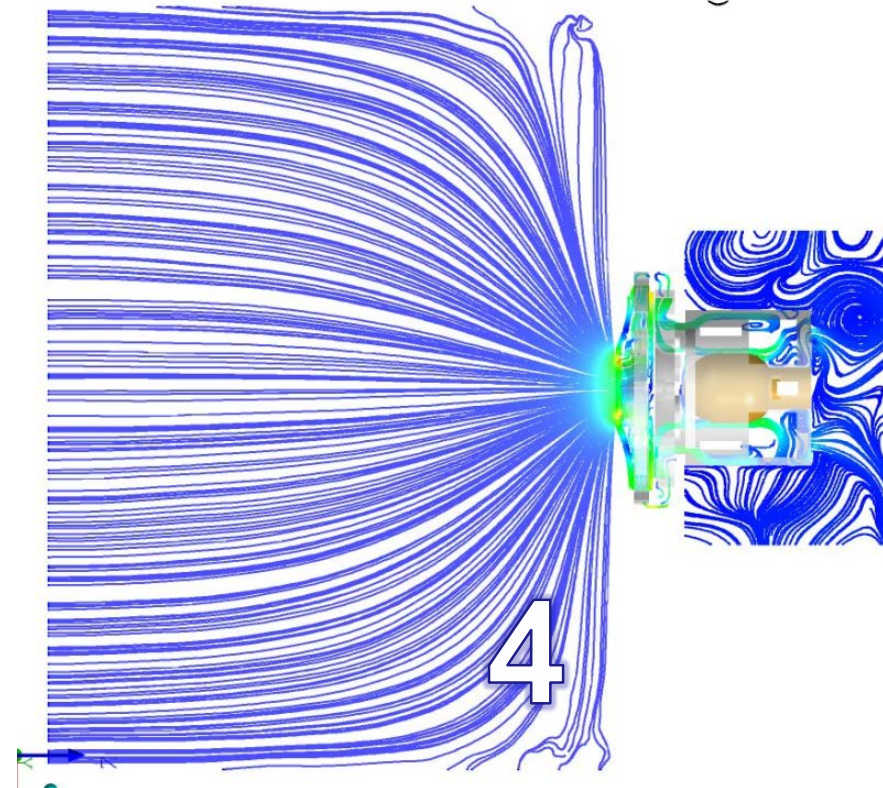
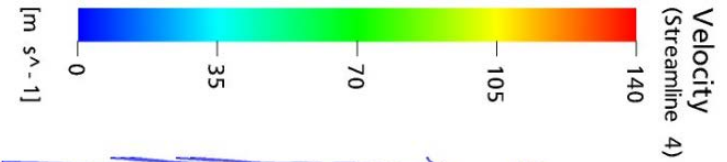
Domain	Elements
Diffuser and deswirl vanes	2,611,793
Impeller	1,625,083
Test rig section	219,683
Motor	1,857,924
Outflow region	298,431
All domains	6,612,914

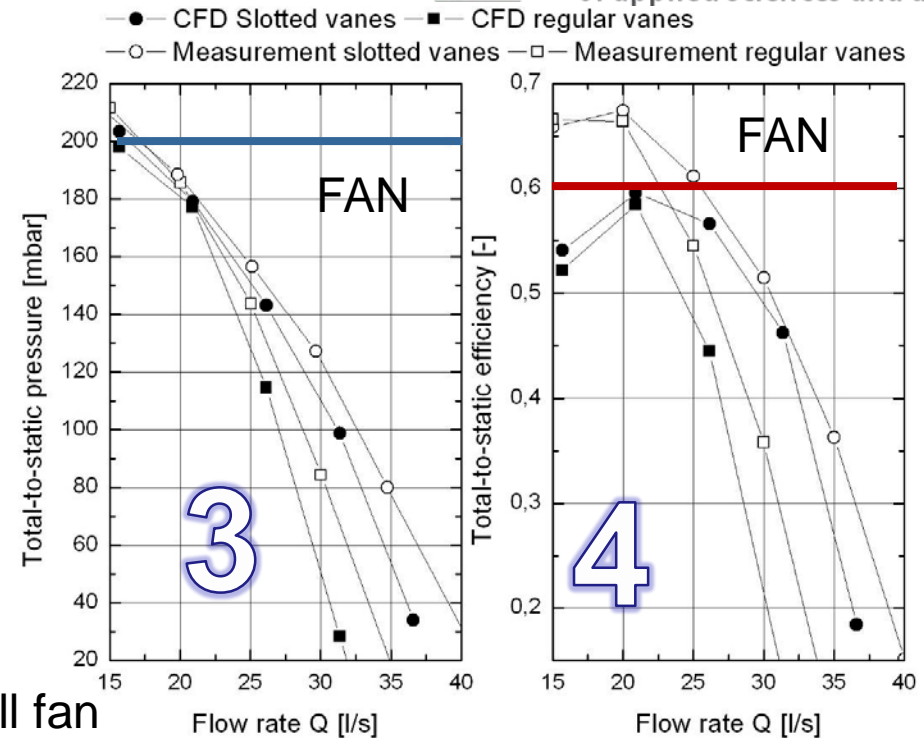
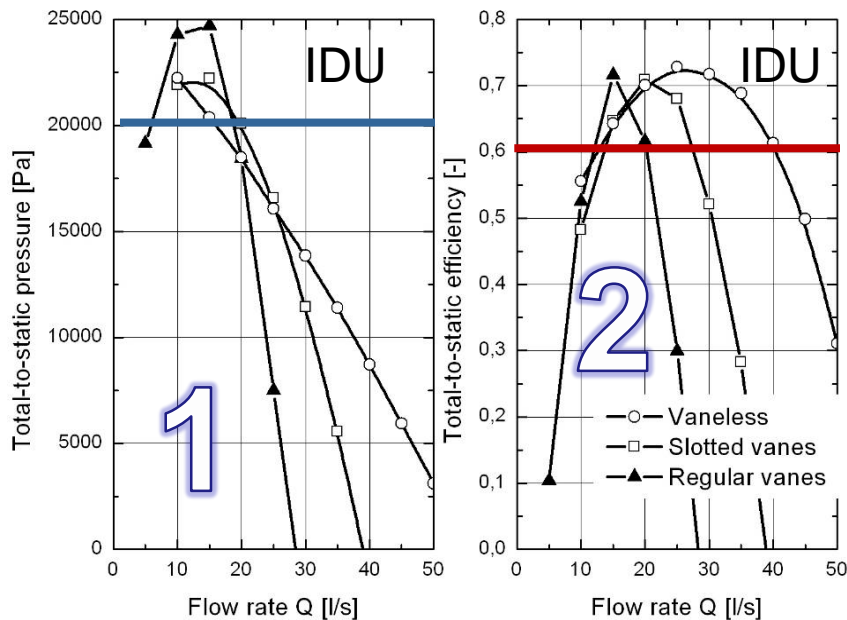
4





- 1) Test rig according to DIN 24 163
- 2) Prototype with slotted diffuser
- 3) Prototype with regular diffuser
- 4) Full CFD simulation





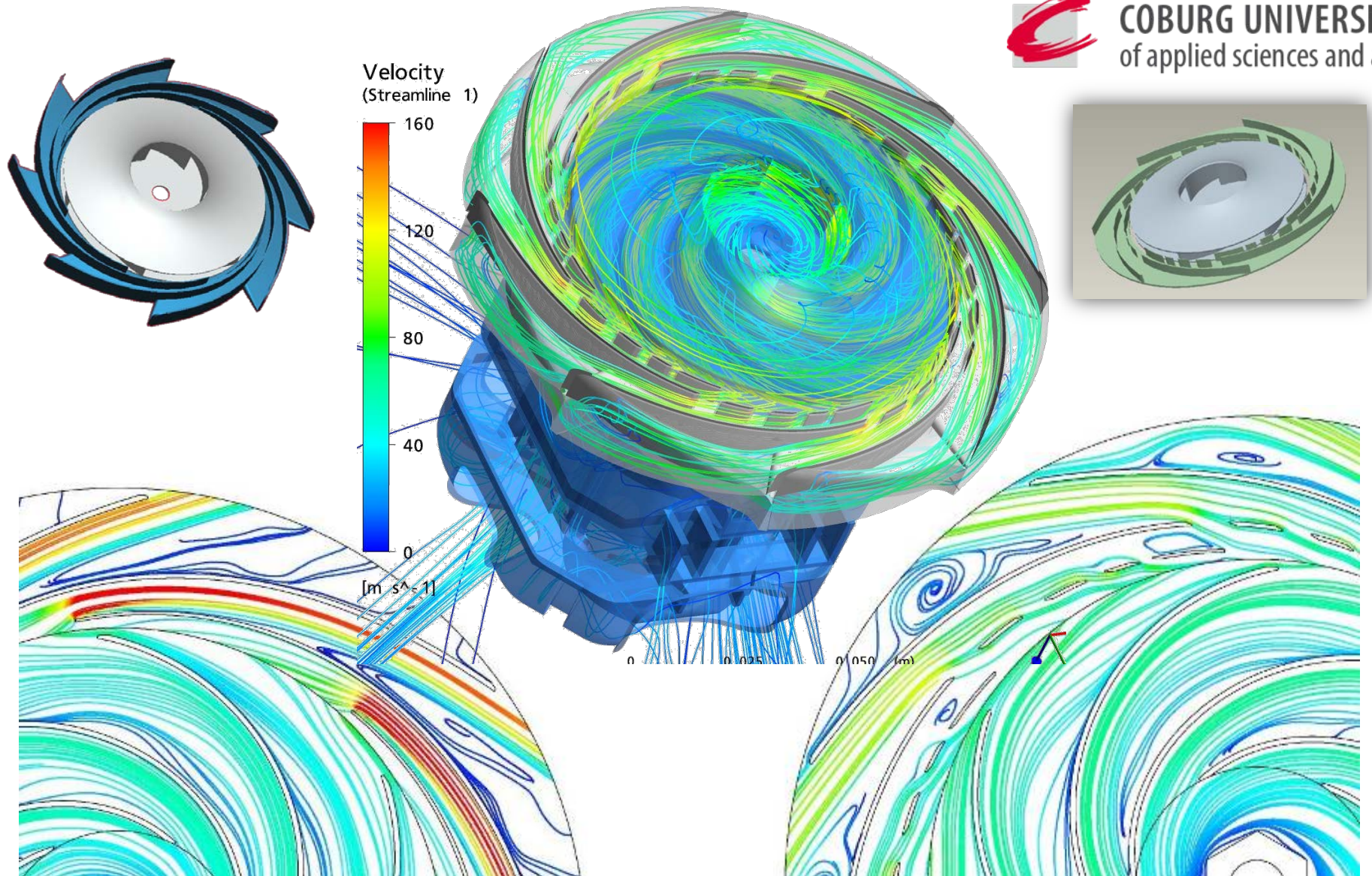
1+2) CFD results of IDU only

3+4) CFD and measurement results of full fan

## Analysis:

- Decrease in maximum efficiency and pressure from IDU to Fan due to losses in the motor
- Also in the full fan the slotted diffuser leads to higher flow rates than the regular type.
- The maximum pressure is almost the same for the regular and slotted diffusers, which is also confirmed by the measurements
- Hence, in the full fan, the slotted diffuser proves to be better than the regular one



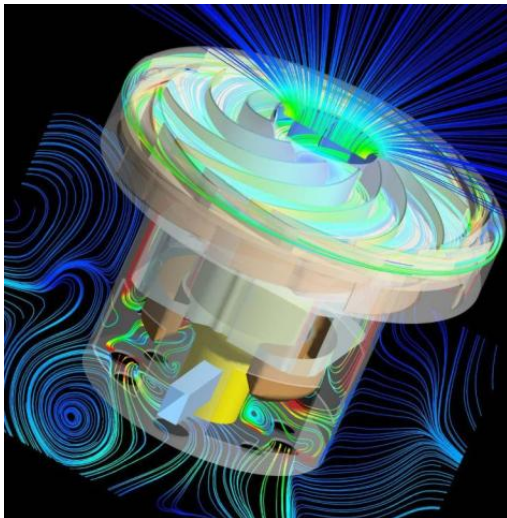


Any questions to this topic?

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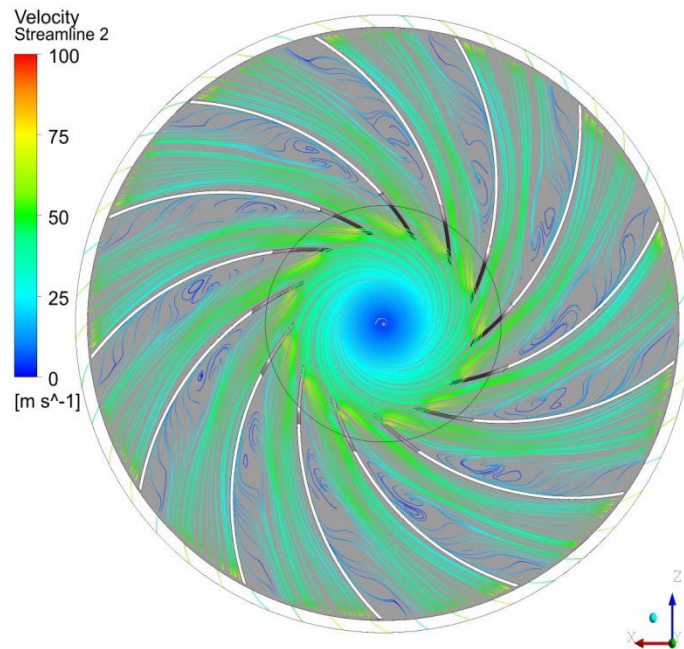


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COMPACT TEST RIG DESIGN





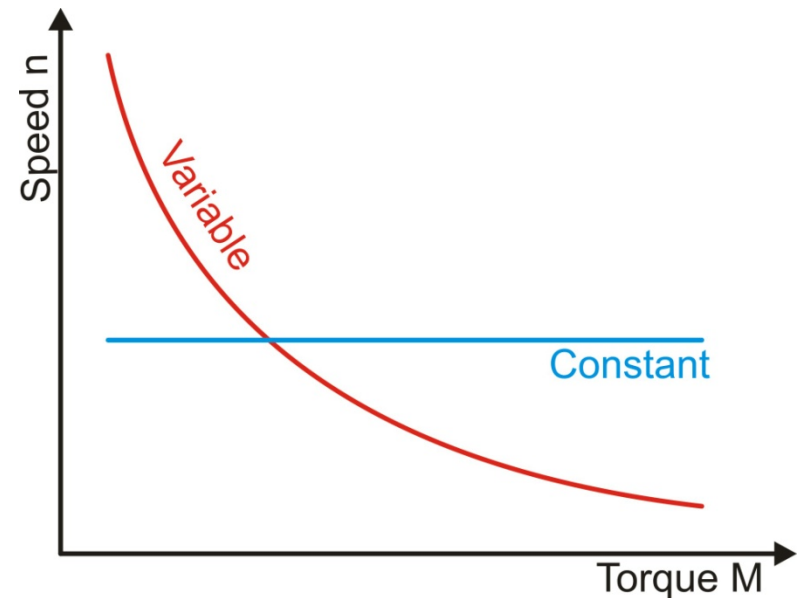
# CASE STUDY II: A DESIGN METHOD OF RADIAL FANS CONSIDERING THE TORQUE-SPEED- CHARACTERISTIC OF THE MOTOR



- The most common design case is the one with constant speed. In that case, one assigns the corresponding value to the speed  $n$ , hence the speed no longer matters in the further design procedure: it is given and it is constant.
- However, in many cases the speed is not constant, since it is governed by the torque–speed characteristic of the driving motor. In such a case it is necessary to consider this characteristic already at the design stage.

$$n = \frac{k_1}{\sqrt{M_{drive}}} + k_2$$

$$M_{drive} = \left( \frac{k_1}{n - k_2} \right)^2$$





For a general drive and hence torque–speed characteristic, one can write

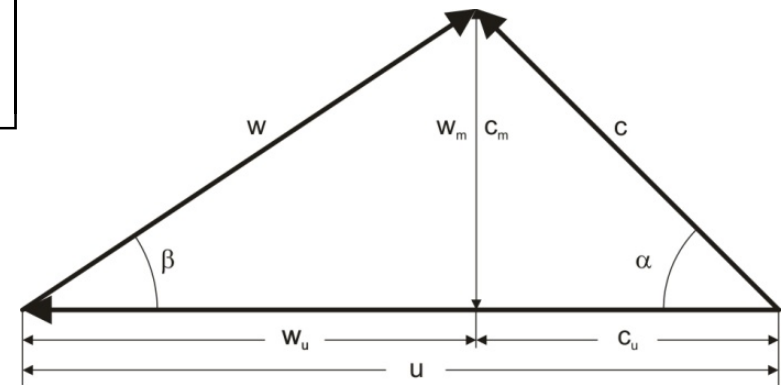
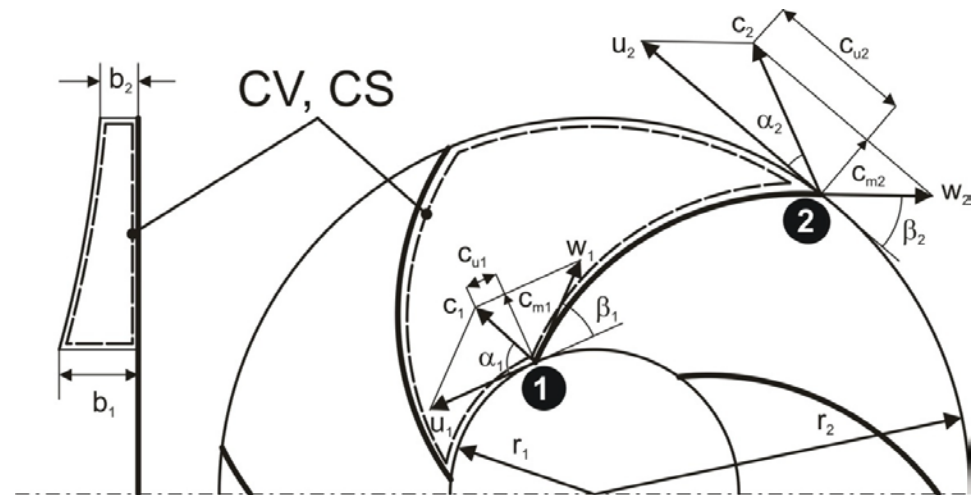
$$\Delta p_{t12} = \rho (u_2 c_{u2} - u_1 c_{u1}) = \rho u_2 c_{u2}$$

$$P_{shaft, impeller} = Q \Delta p_{t12}$$

$$P_{shaft, impeller} = \rho Q \underbrace{\pi d_2 n}_{u_2} \left[ \underbrace{\pi d_2 n - \frac{Q}{\pi d_2 b_2 \tan \beta_2}}_{c_{u2}} \right]$$

$$M_{drive} = f(n)$$

$$f(n) = \frac{1}{2} \rho Q d_2 \left( \pi d_2 n - \frac{Q}{\pi d_2 b_2 \tan \beta_2} \right)$$



## Torque-Speed

## Speed-Flow rate

**Motor**  $f(n) = A_{drive} + B_{drive} n$

**Impeller**  $f(n) = \frac{1}{2} \rho Q d_2 \left( \pi d_2 n - \frac{Q}{\pi d_2 b_2 \tan \beta_2} \right)$

### System

$$n = \frac{2 A_{drive} + \frac{\rho Q^2}{\pi b_2 \tan \beta_2}}{(-2 B_{drive} + \pi \rho d_2^2 Q)}$$

### System

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Motor} \quad M_{motor} = f(n) \\ \text{Impeller} \quad M_{impeller} = g(Q, n) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow n = h(Q) \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M_{impeller} = M_{impeller}(Q) \\ \Delta p_{t-s} = \Delta p_{t-s}(Q) \\ \eta_{t-s} = \eta_{t-s}(Q) \end{array} \right.$$



$$n = \frac{2 A_{drive} + \frac{\rho Q^2}{\pi b_2 \tan \beta_2}}{(-2B_{drive} + \pi \rho d_2^2 Q)}$$

$$M = \frac{1}{2} \rho Q d_2 \left( \pi d_2 n - \frac{Q}{\pi d_2 b_2 \tan \beta_2} \right)$$

$$\Delta p_{t-s} = \frac{\rho}{2} \left[ (\pi d_2 n)^2 - \left( \frac{Q}{\pi d_2 b_2 \sin(\beta_2)} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\eta_{t-s} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left[ (\pi d_2 n)^2 - \left( \frac{Q}{\pi d_2 b_2 \sin \beta_2} \right)^2 \right]}{\pi d_2 n \left( u_2 - \frac{Q}{\pi d_2 b_2 \tan \beta_2} \right)}$$

**Speed as a function of flow rate**  $n = h(Q)$

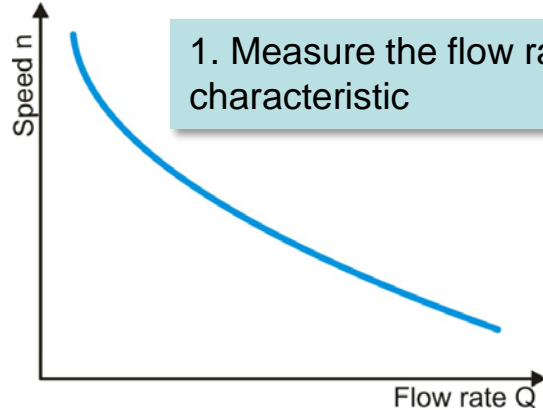
**Torque, pressure and efficiency as a function of flow rate**

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} M_{impeller} = M_{impeller}(Q) \\ \Delta p_{t-s} = \Delta p_{t-s}(Q) \\ \eta_{t-s} = \eta_{t-s}(Q) \end{cases}$$

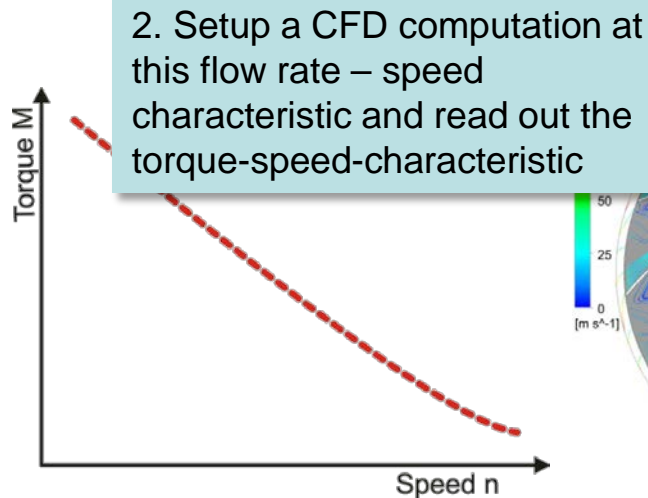
# Motor torque-speed-characteristic



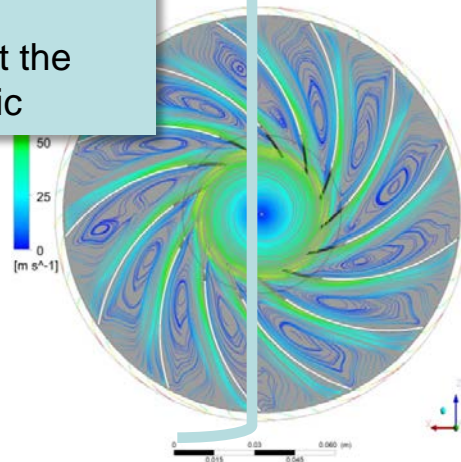
How to proceed if the torque-speed-characteristic is not available from the motor manufacturer?



1. Measure the flow rate – speed characteristic



2. Setup a CFD computation at this flow rate – speed characteristic and read out the torque-speed-characteristic

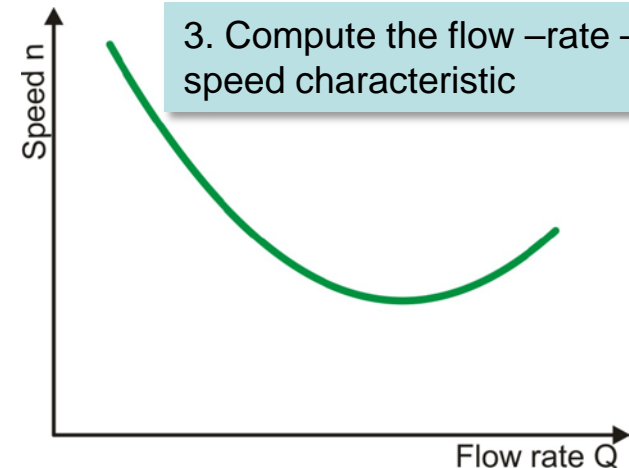


Flow rate

Speed



3. Compute the flow –rate – speed characteristic





# Design Case

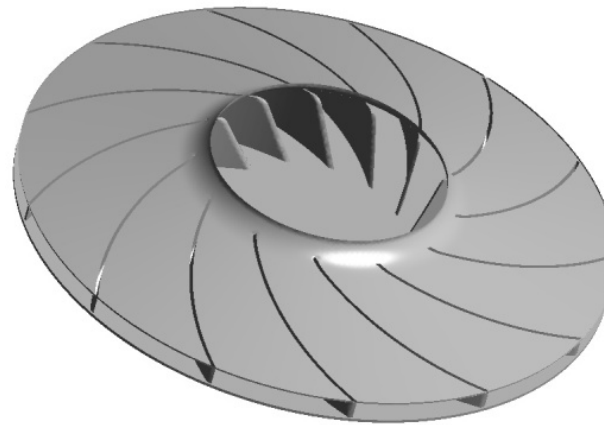


Aims of the project:

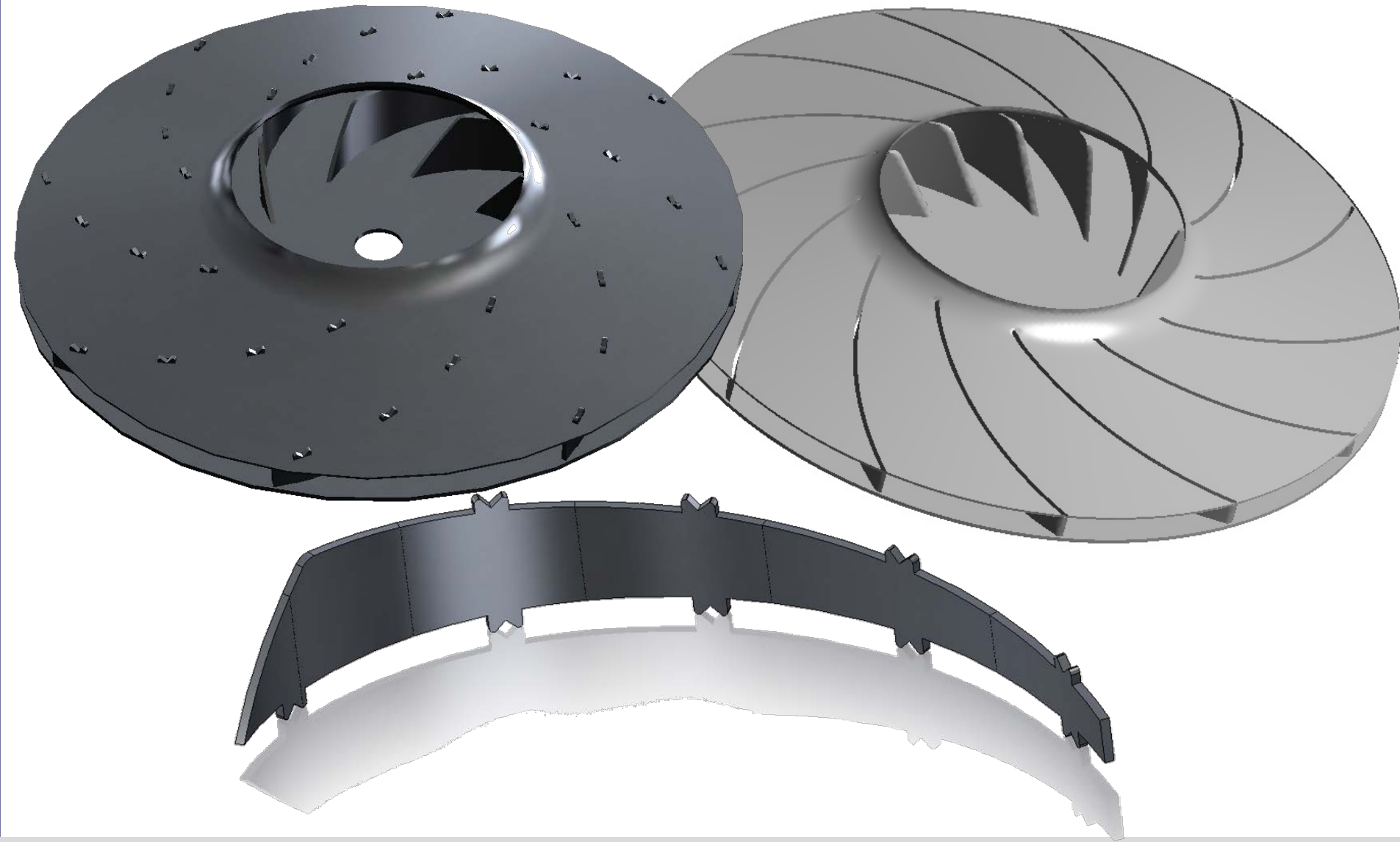
1. Keep or improve the hydraulic power
2. Increase the rotating speed due to the cooling fan at the other end of the shaft
3. Improve the hydraulic efficiency



Starting point is the torque-speed-characteristic of the motor

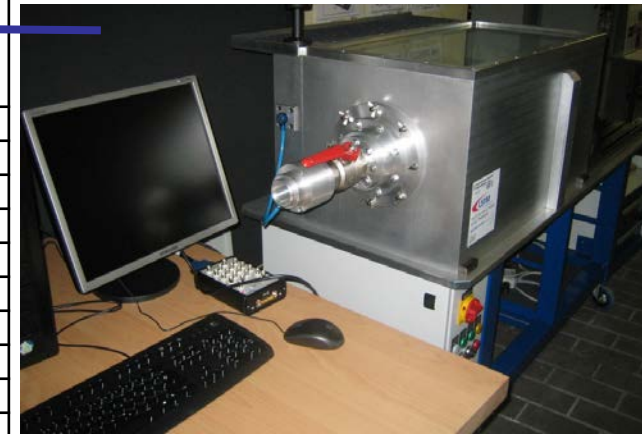


# Sheet metal impeller

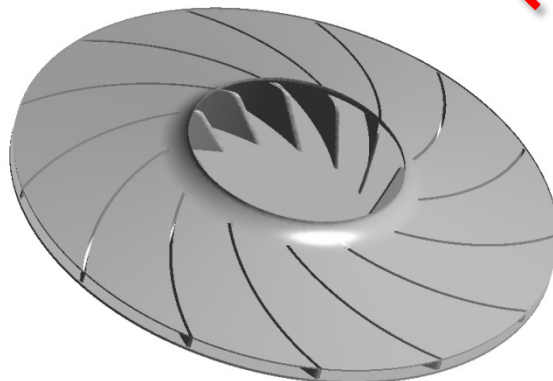




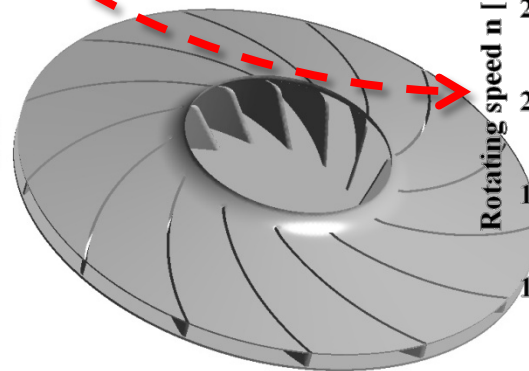
Blende (mm)	$n$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ )	p korrigiert (mmWS)	V ( $\text{ls}^{-1}$ )	i (A)	P (W)	P2 (W)	$\eta$ (%)
50	16580	371,0	91,49	6,96	1597	332,88	20,84
40	17351	690,8	79,90	7,05	1627	541,25	33,27
30	18819	1115,1	57,10	7,02	1618	624,42	38,59
23	20269	1423,6	37,92	6,75	1553	529,42	34,09
19	21382	1581,4	27,28	6,56	1528	423,01	27,68
16	22381	1691,1	20,02	6,43	1475	332,61	22,55
13	23266	1810,0	13,66	6,28	1440	242,47	16,84
10	24280	1918,6	8,32	6,13	1406	156,58	11,14
6,5	25367	1992,4	3,58	5,95	1388	70,01	5,04
0	25822	2116,4	0,00	5,86	1360	0,00	0,00



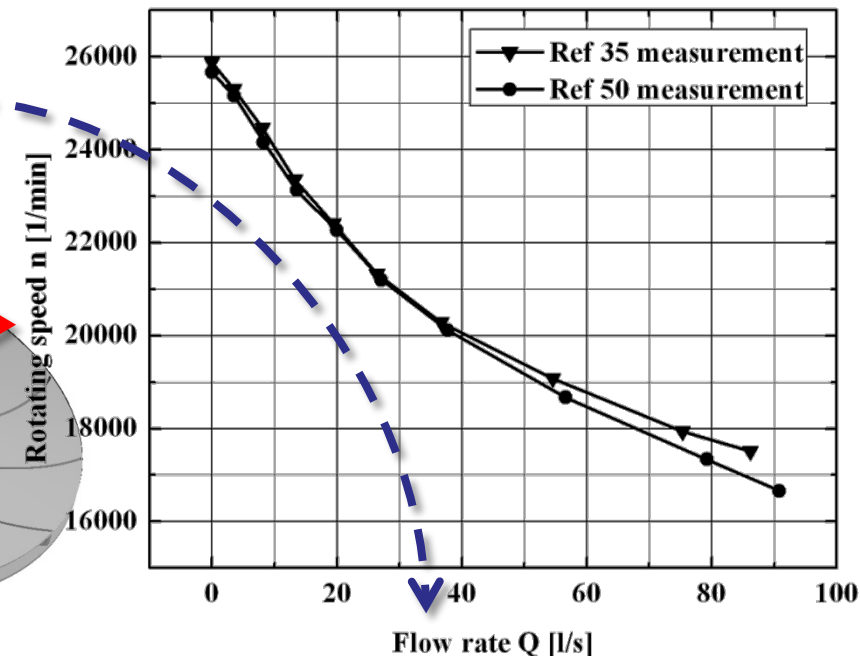
1. Measure the flow rate – speed characteristic



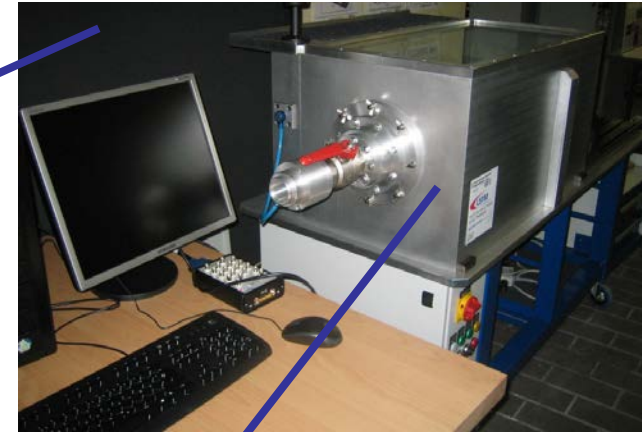
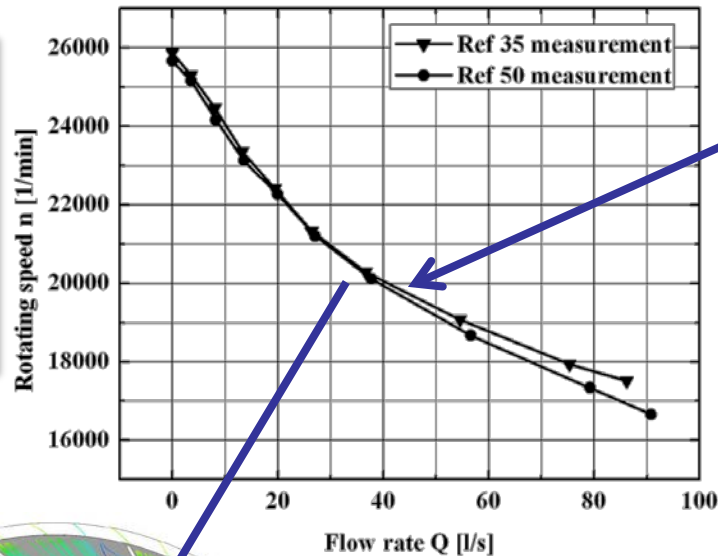
Ref 35



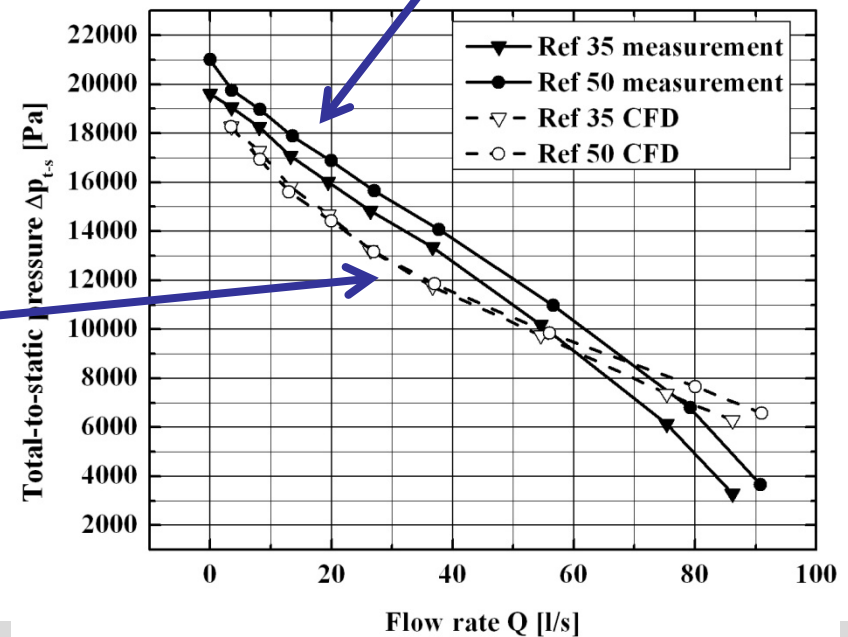
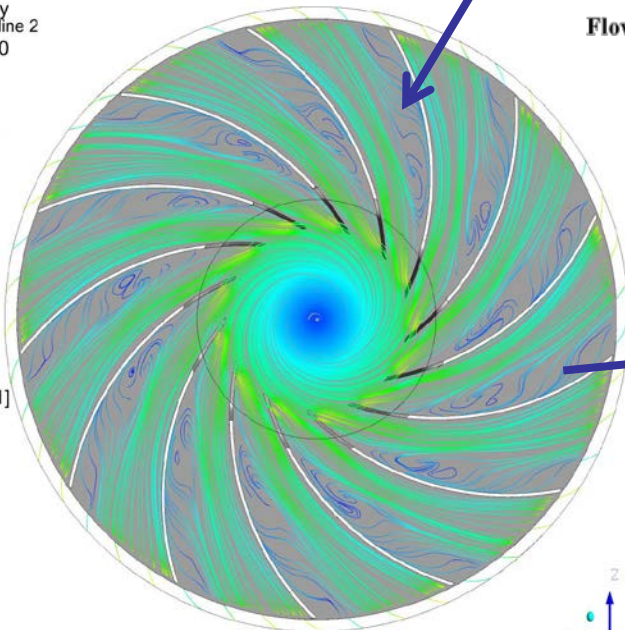
Ref 50



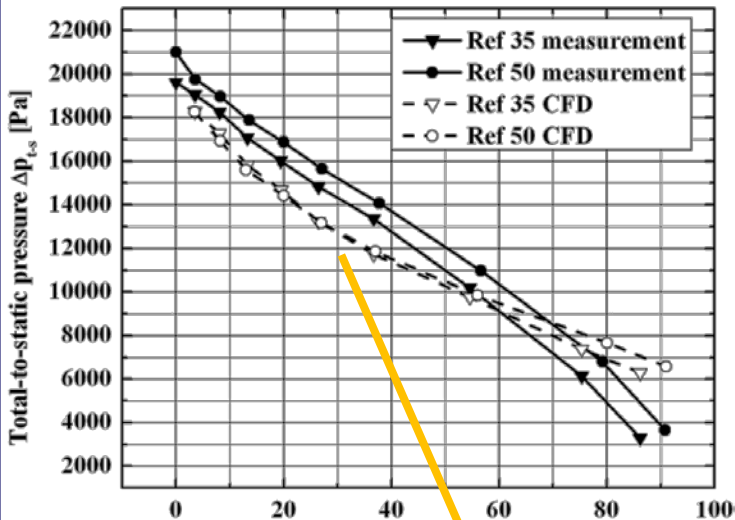
2. Setup a CFD computation at this flow rate – speed characteristic and read out the torque-speed-characteristic



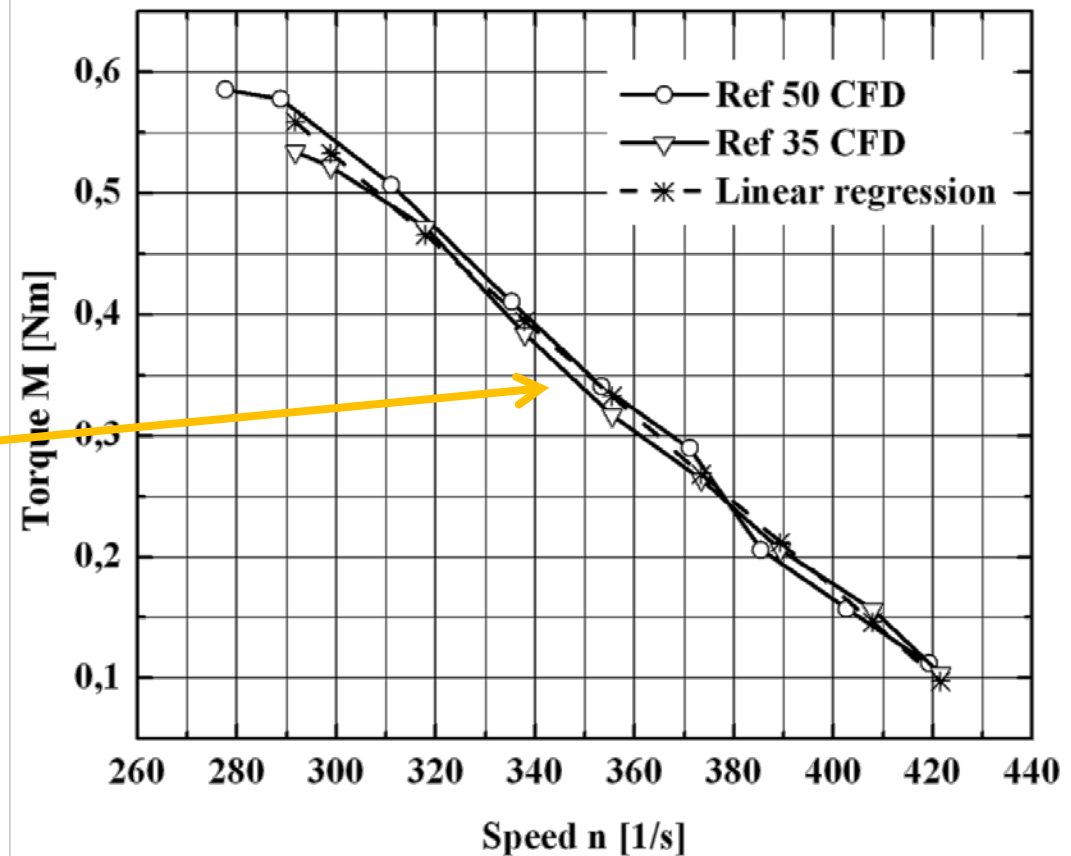
Velocity  
Streamline 2  
100  
75  
50  
25  
0  
[m s<sup>-1</sup>]



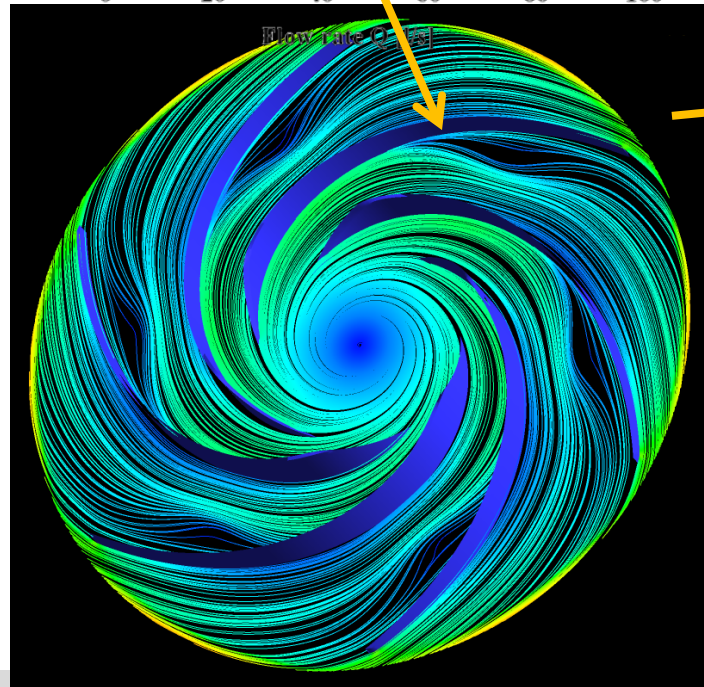


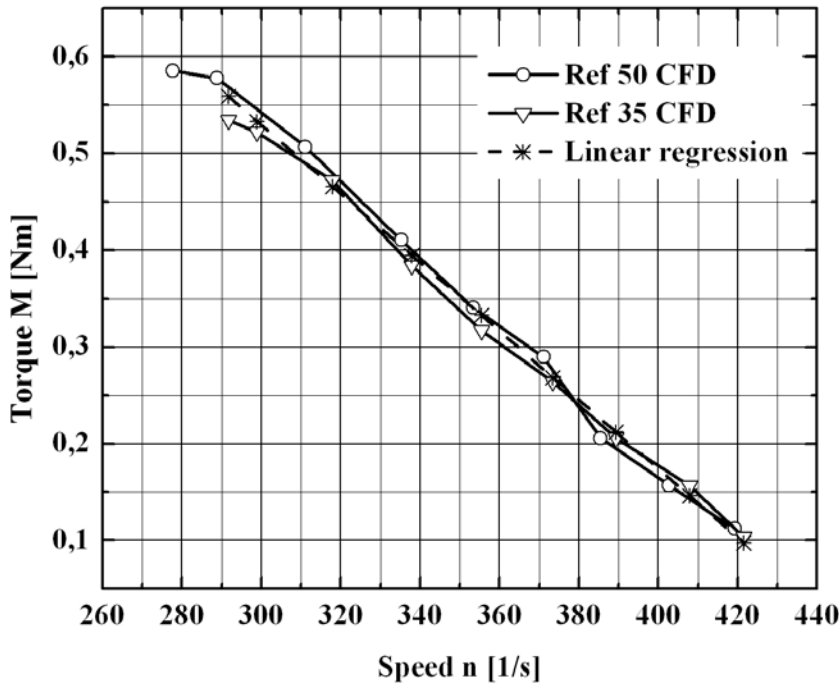


3. Compute the flow –rate –  
speed characteristic



Torque-speed-characteristic





$$f(n) = A_{drive} + B_{drive} n$$

$$n = \frac{2 A_{drive} + \frac{\rho Q^2}{\pi b_2 \tan \beta_2}}{(-2 B_{drive} + \pi \rho d_2^2 Q)}$$

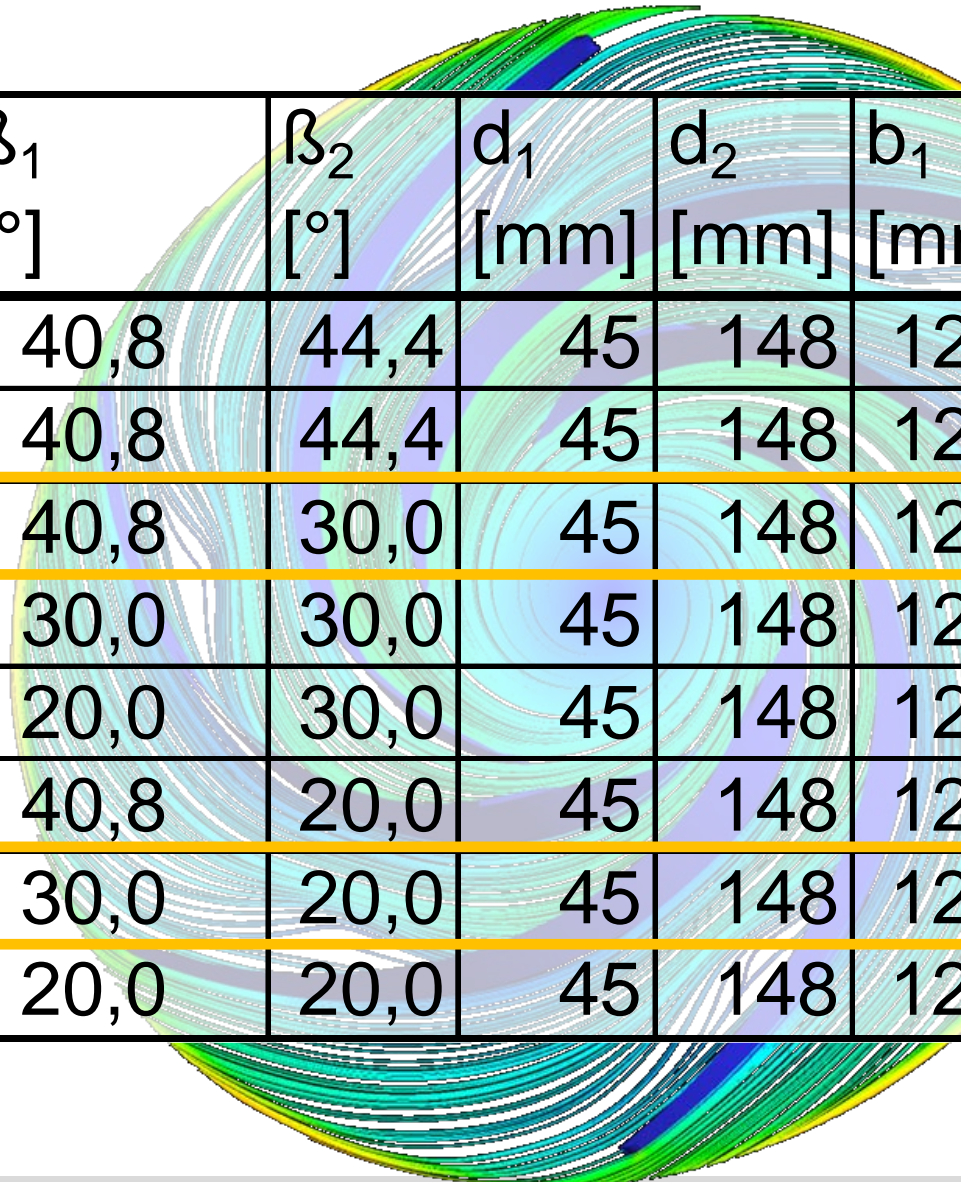
Linear regression:

$$A_{drive} = 1.595$$

$$B_{drive} = -0.00355$$

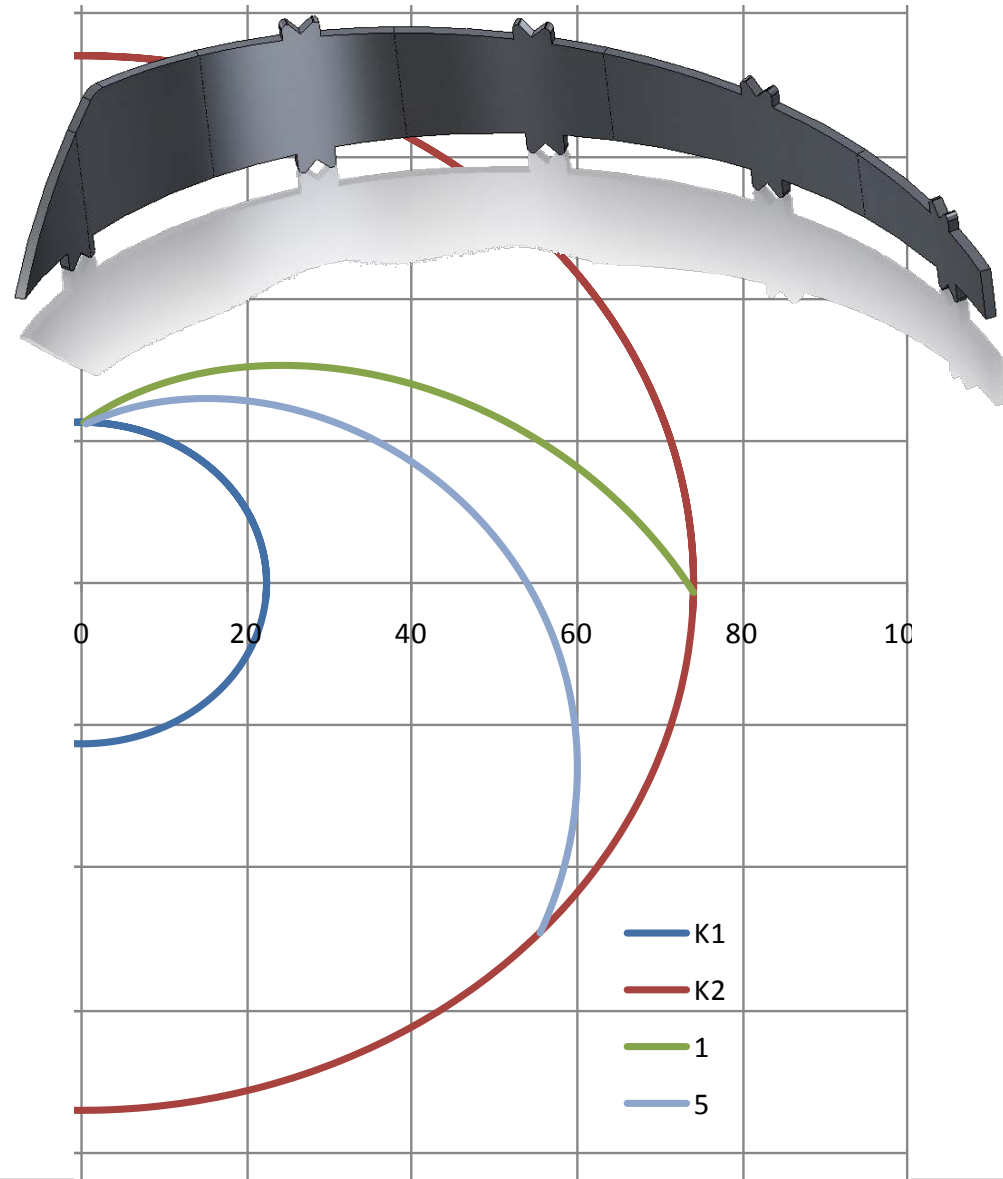
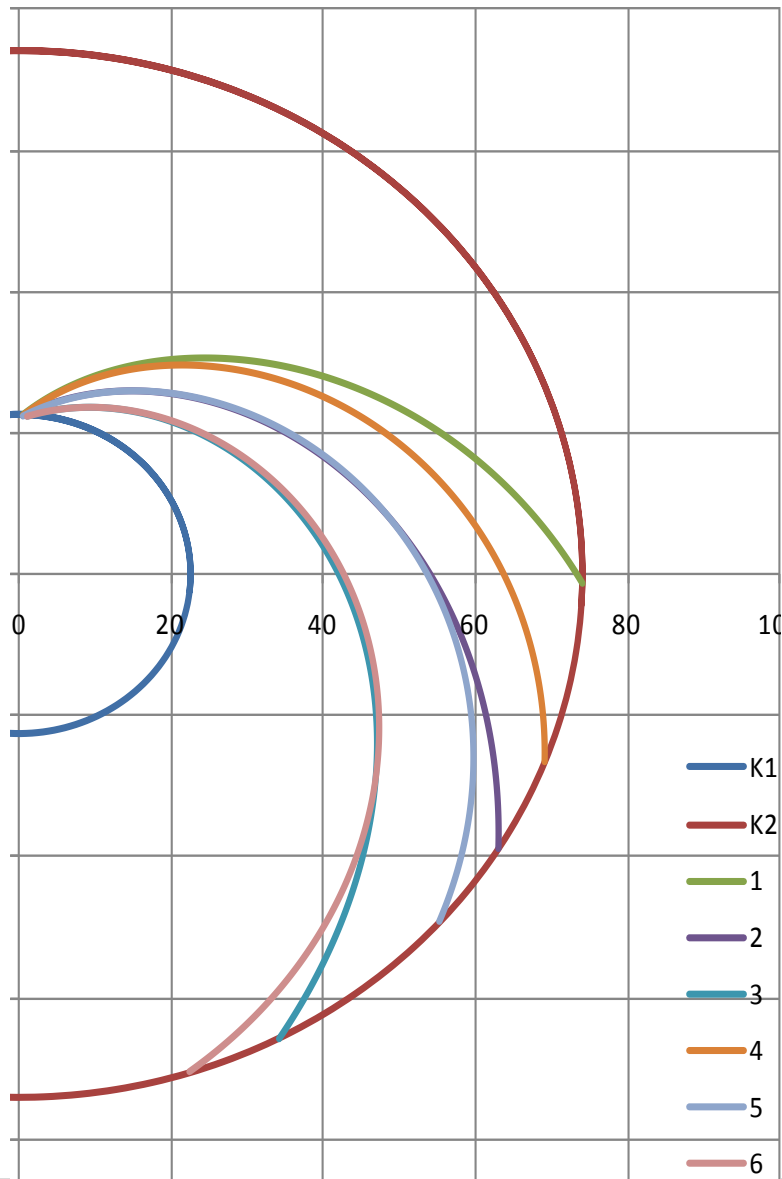
$$n = \frac{3.19 + \frac{\rho Q^2}{\pi b_2 \tan \beta_2}}{(0.0071 + \pi \rho d_2^2 Q)}$$





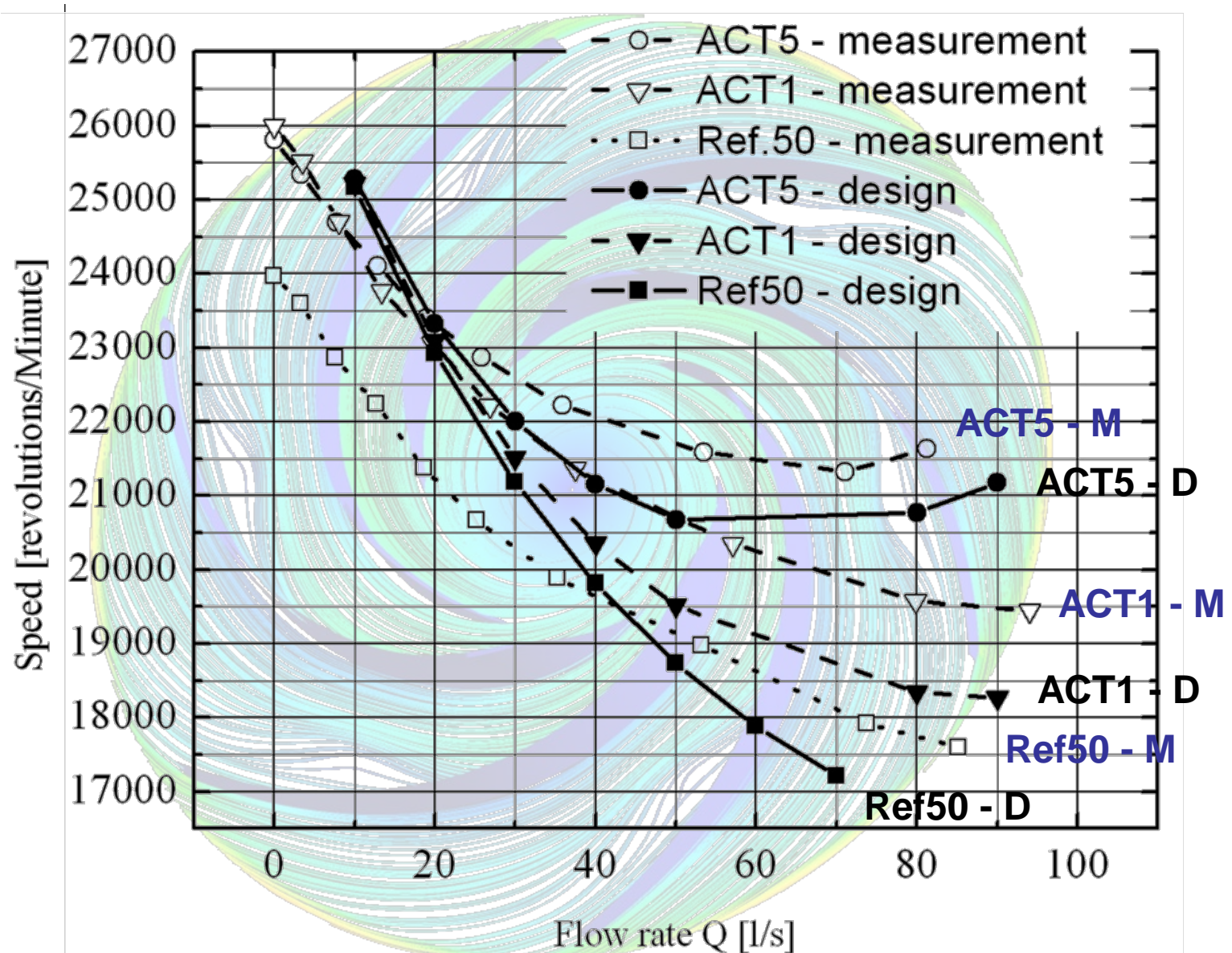
	$\beta_1$ [°]	$\beta_2$ [°]	$d_1$ [mm]	$d_2$ [mm]	$b_1$ [mm]	$b_2$ [mm]	$\theta$ [°]	$z$
Ref 50	40,8	44,4	45	148	12,9	5	60	13
Ref 35	40,8	44,4	45	148	12,9	3,5	60	13
ACT1	40,8	30,0	45	148	12,9	5	90	8
ACT2	30,0	30,0	45	148	12,9	5	120	8
ACT3	20,0	30,0	45	148	12,9	5	150	6
ACT4	40,8	20,0	45	148	12,9	5	110	7
ACT5	30,0	20,0	45	148	12,9	5	130	6
ACT6	20,0	20,0	45	148	12,9	5	160	6

# Blade shapes

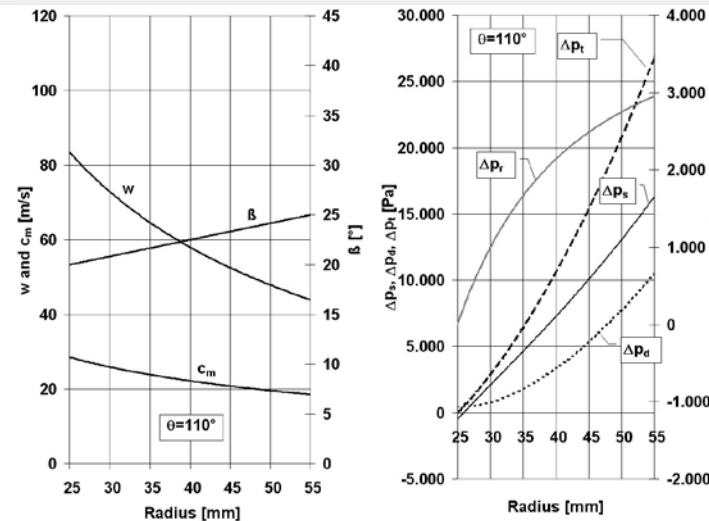
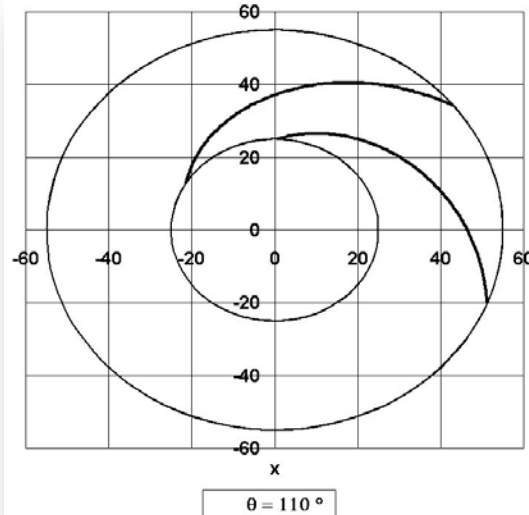




# Results

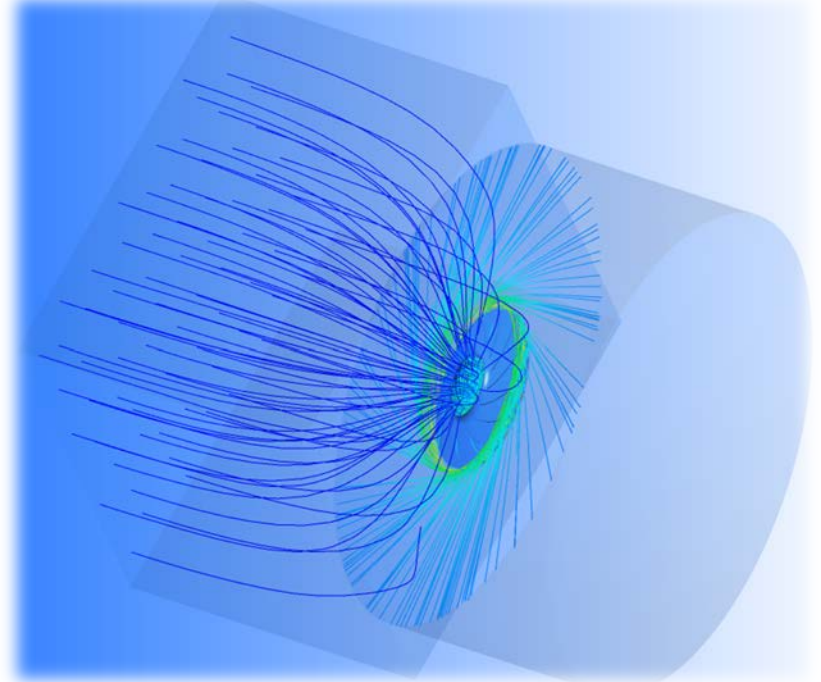
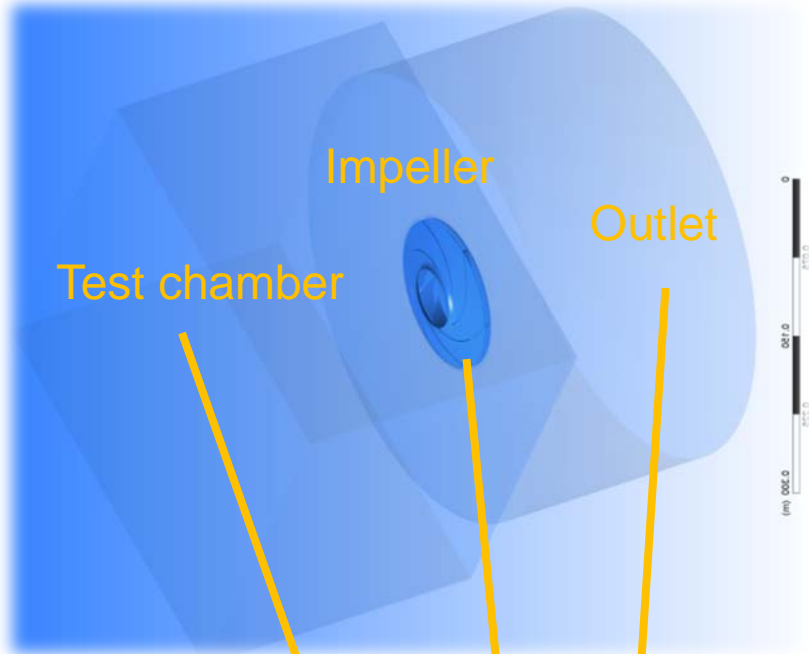


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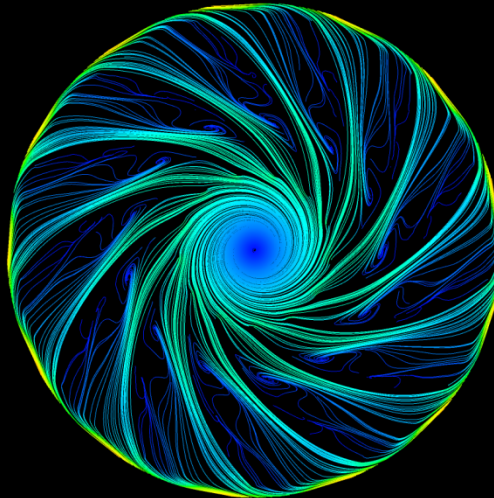




# Flow domains



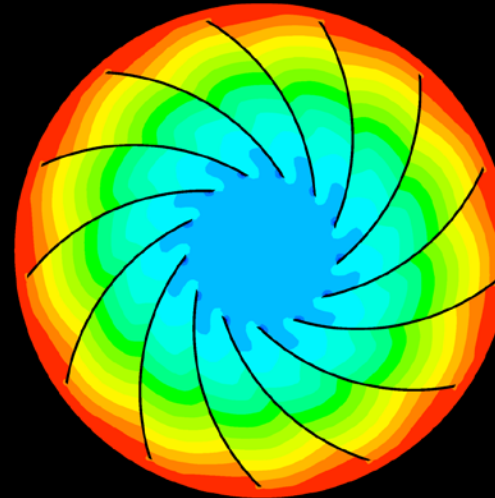
Velocity  
Streamline 1  
150  
113  
75  
38  
0  
[m s<sup>-1</sup>]



0 0.015 0.03 0.045 (m)



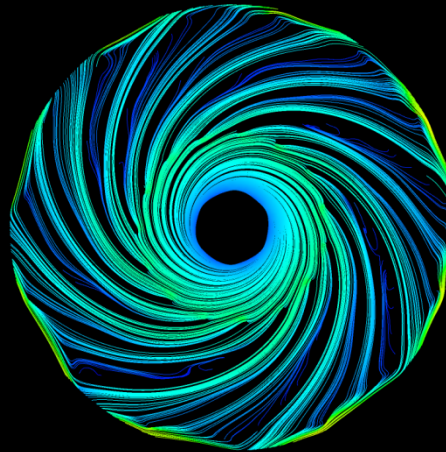
Pressure  
Pressure Contour  
228  
-772  
-1771  
-2770  
-3770  
-4769  
-5768  
-6768  
-7767  
-8766  
-9765  
-10765  
-11764  
-12763  
-13763  
-14762  
[Pa]



0 0.015 0.03 0.045 (m)



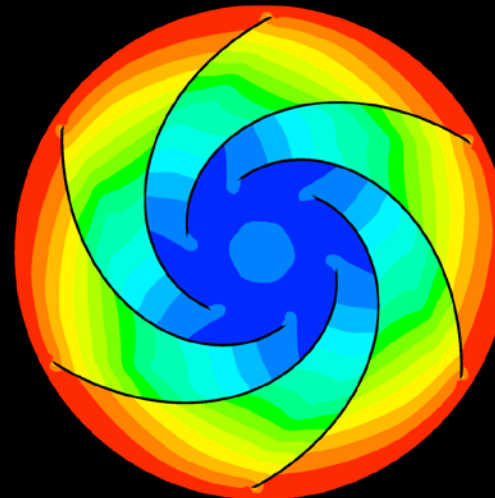
Velocity  
Streamline 1  
199  
149  
100  
50  
0  
[m s<sup>-1</sup>]



0 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.04 (m)



Pressure  
Pressure Contour  
125  
-743  
-1511  
-2479  
-3346  
-4214  
-5082  
-5950  
-6818  
-7686  
-8553  
-9421  
-10289  
-11157  
-12025  
-12893  
[Pa]

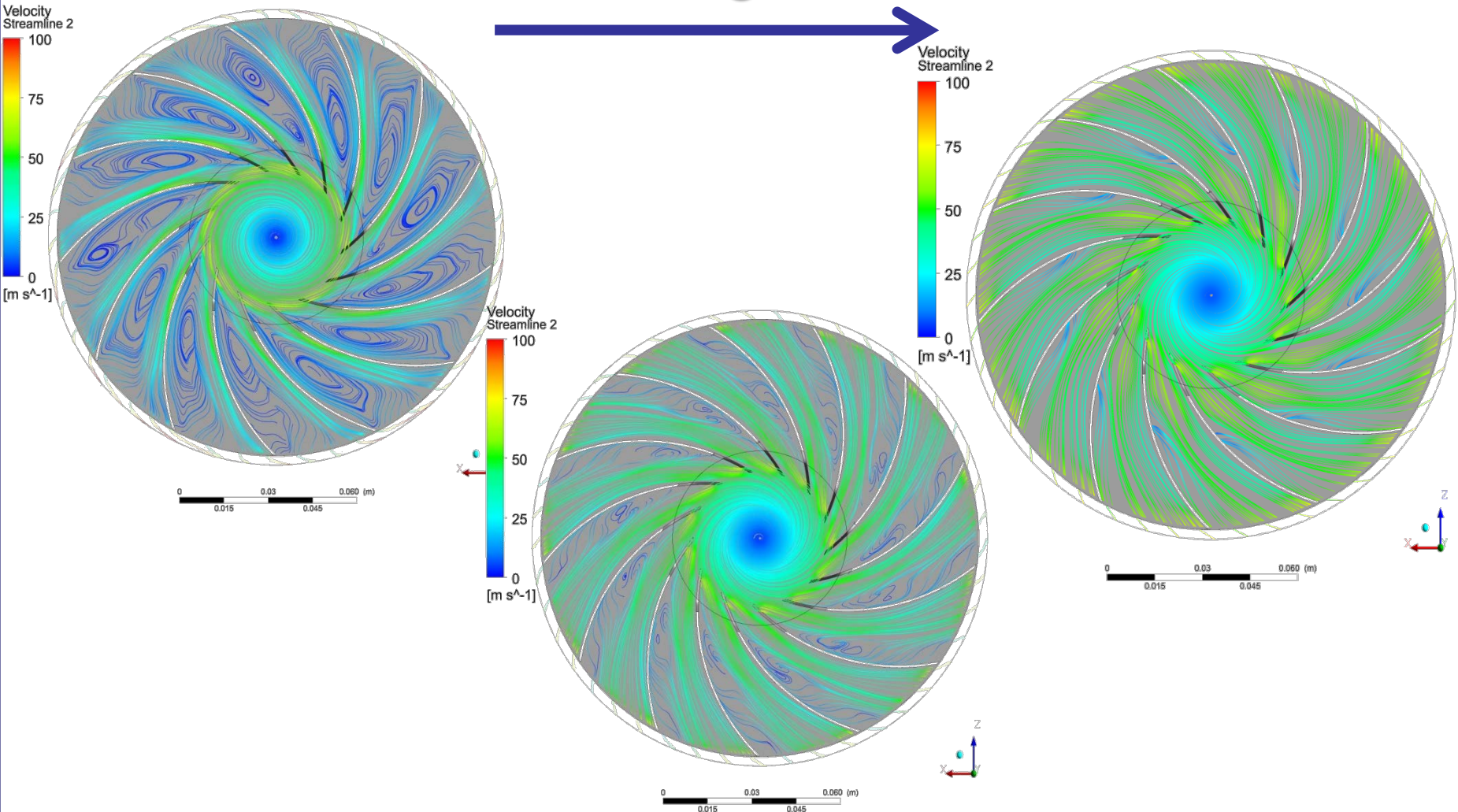


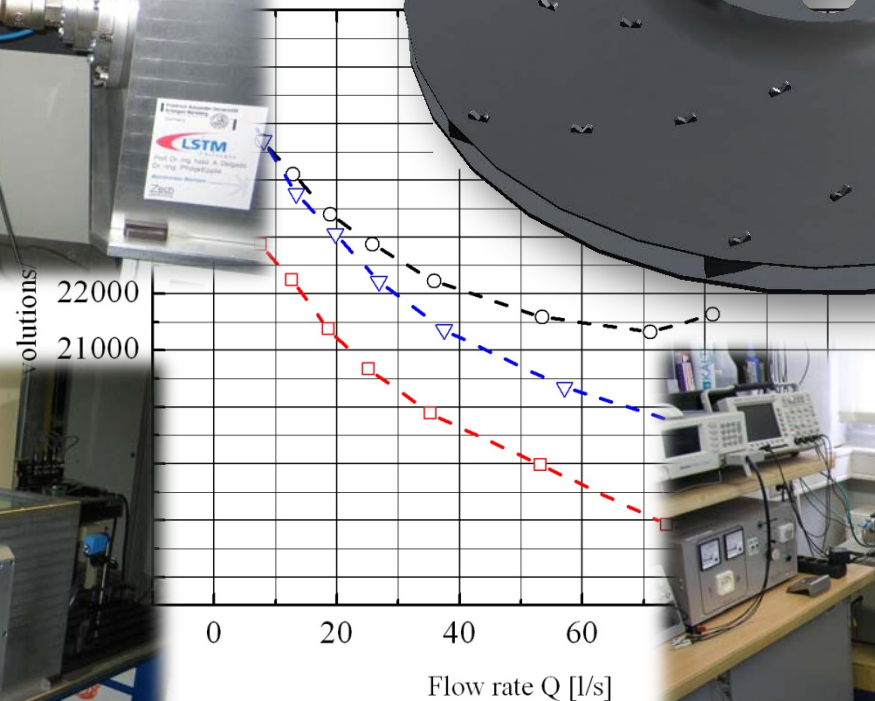
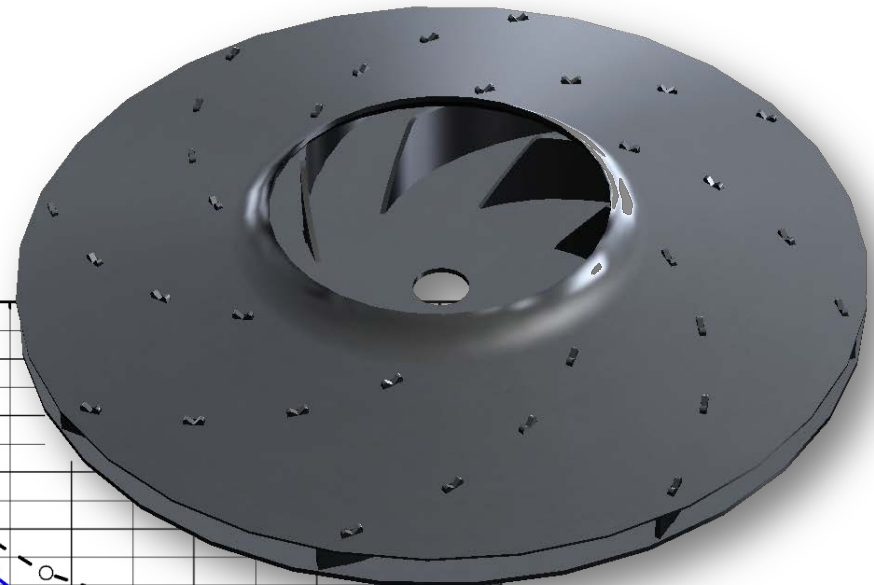
0 0.015 0.03 0.045 (m)



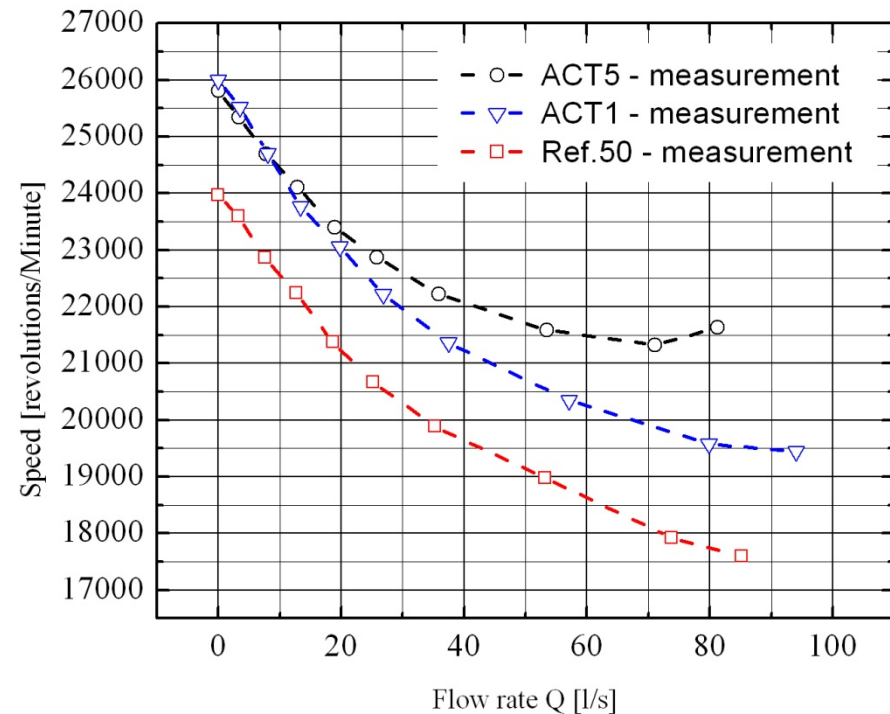
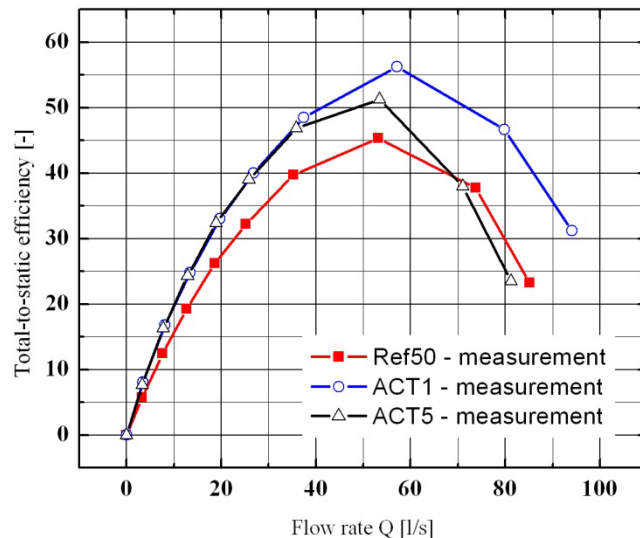
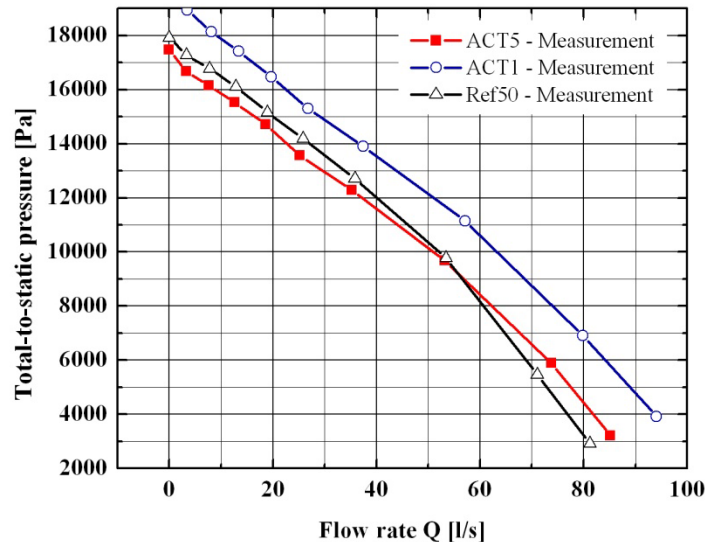


## Increasing flow rate







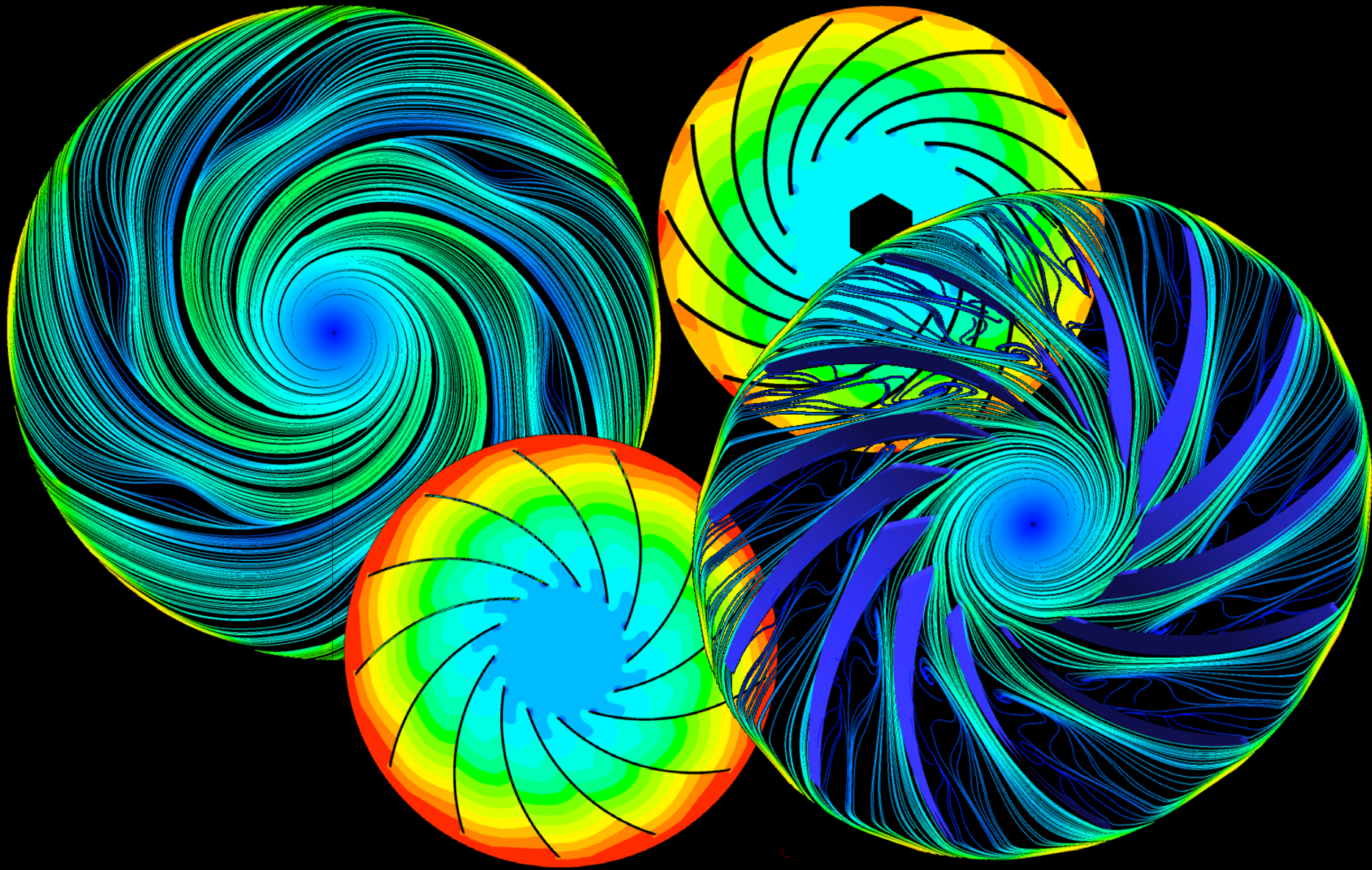


1. Higher rotational speed
2. Higher total-to-static pressure
3. Higher total-to-static efficiency

# Thank you. Any questions?



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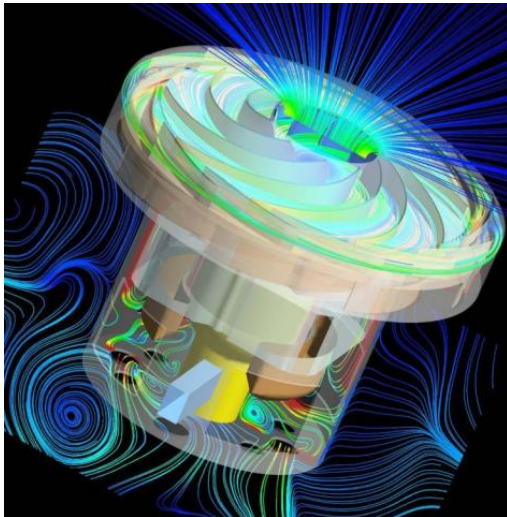




# CONTENTS

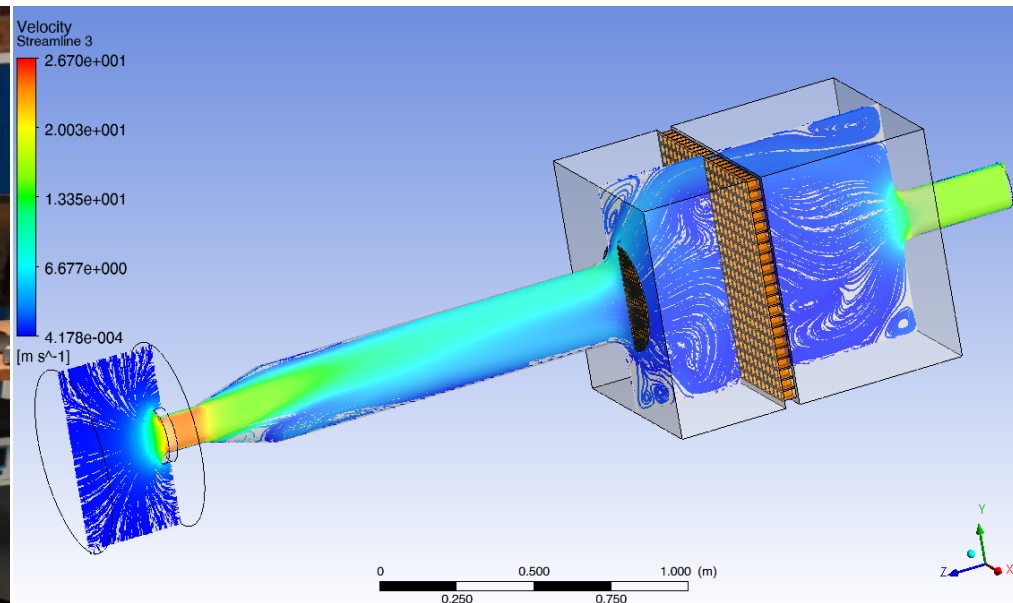


- NEED FOR TFD, CFD AND EFD
- CASE STUDY I:  
SLOTTED DIFFUSER
- CASE STUDY II:  
TORQUE-SPEED CHARACTERISTIC
- CASE STUDY III:  
COMPACT TEST RIG DESIGN



# CASE STUDIE III

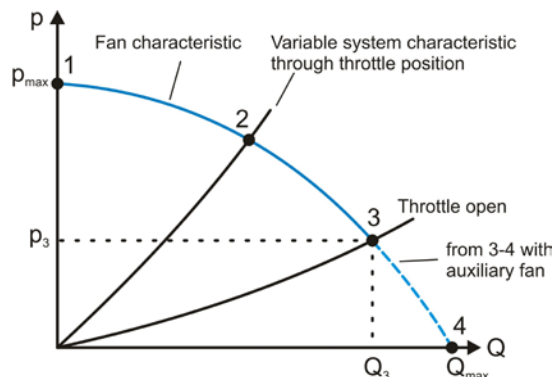
## COMPACT TEST RIG DESIGN FOR FANS AND BLOWERS





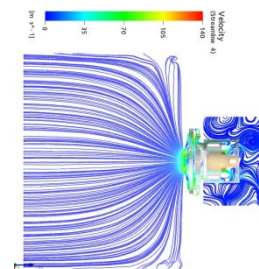
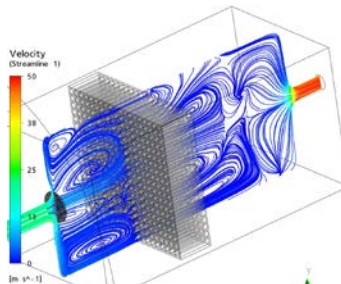
# Contents

- Motivation
- Fans and blowers characteristics and their measurement
- Test rig overview
- Suction and pressure side test rigs
- Pressure side test rigs details
- Suction side test rigs details
- Conclusions



# Motivation

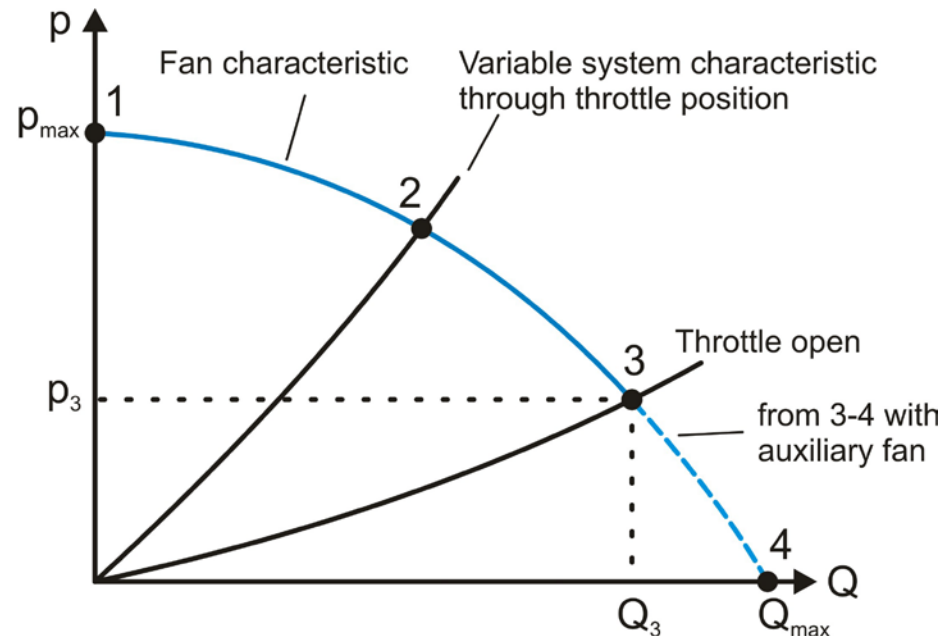
- Even with continuous improvements of CFD (Computational Fluid Dynamics) EFD (Experimental Fluid Dynamics) is still basically part of the design or at least validation process of fans and blowers.
- Therefore, test rigs for fans and blowers are needed.
- These test rigs in general are unique and built according to a corresponding standard.
- These standards, as for example the German DIN 24 163 or the European DIN EN ISO 5801 prescribe only the main proportions of such test rigs while several important features are not described in detail.
- In particular the aerodynamic theory behind the standard is very often omitted.
- For example, the measurement of the pressure characteristic of a fan is performed at a pressure tap at the test chamber wall and not at the fan itself. How to assure that the pressure measured at the wall tap corresponds to the fan pressure?
- In this work the theory behind the design of test rigs was worked out for the relevant test rig features where the standards do not explain the fluid mechanical aspects.
- On this basis pressure and suction side test rigs were designed and completely simulated with a commercial CFD program, Ansys CFX – and built.





# Fans and Blowers Characteristics

- The main performance characteristic of a fan is given by the total-to-static pressure raise  $\Delta p_{t-s}$  against the volumetric flow rate  $Q$  at a constant rotating speed  $n$ .
- The operating condition is varied with a throttle valve.
- The operating point of a fan is given by these three values, i.e. pressure rise, flow rate and rotating speed.

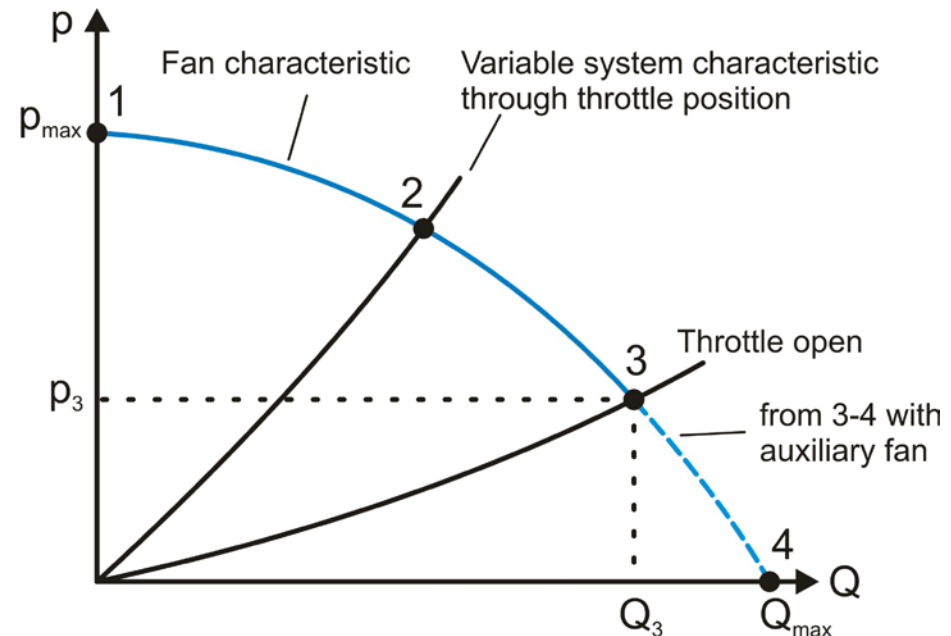


$$P_{hyd} = Q \cdot \Delta p_{t-s}$$

$$\Delta p_{t-s, fan} = \Delta p_{System} = k_{Rig} \cdot Q^2$$

# Measurements

- Measurement of the fan pressure and flow rate are not done at the fan
- It is only possible to measure pressure and flow rate before or after the fan.
- Therefore a suitable system has to be used, in order to measure the proper values of pressure and flow rate.
- For this purpose test rigs are built.

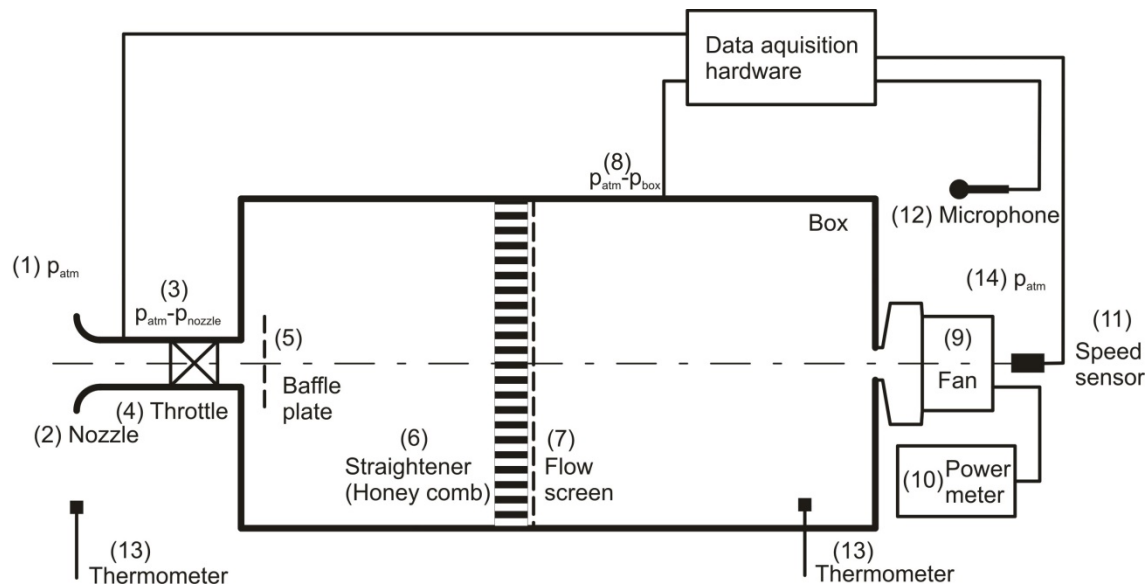
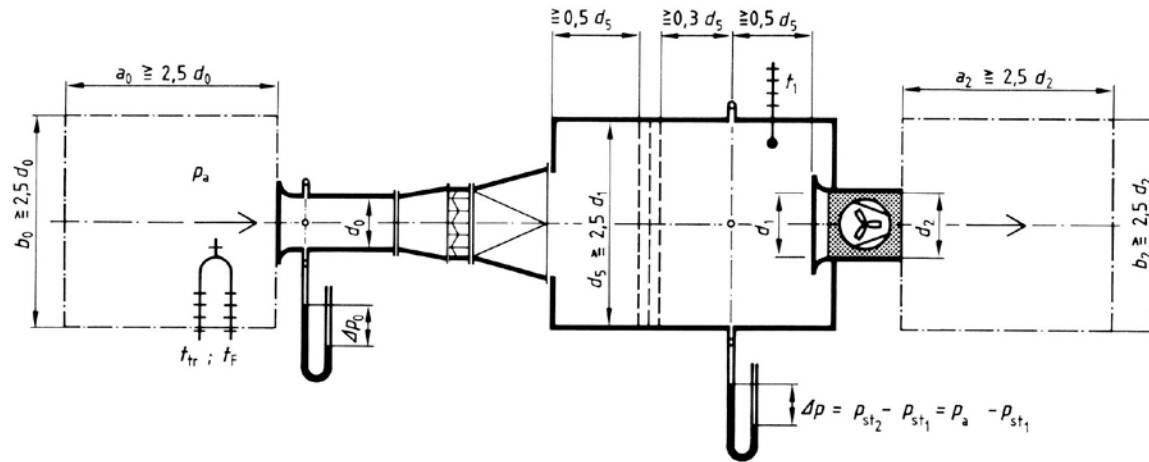


$$P_{hyd} = Q \cdot \Delta p_{t-s}$$

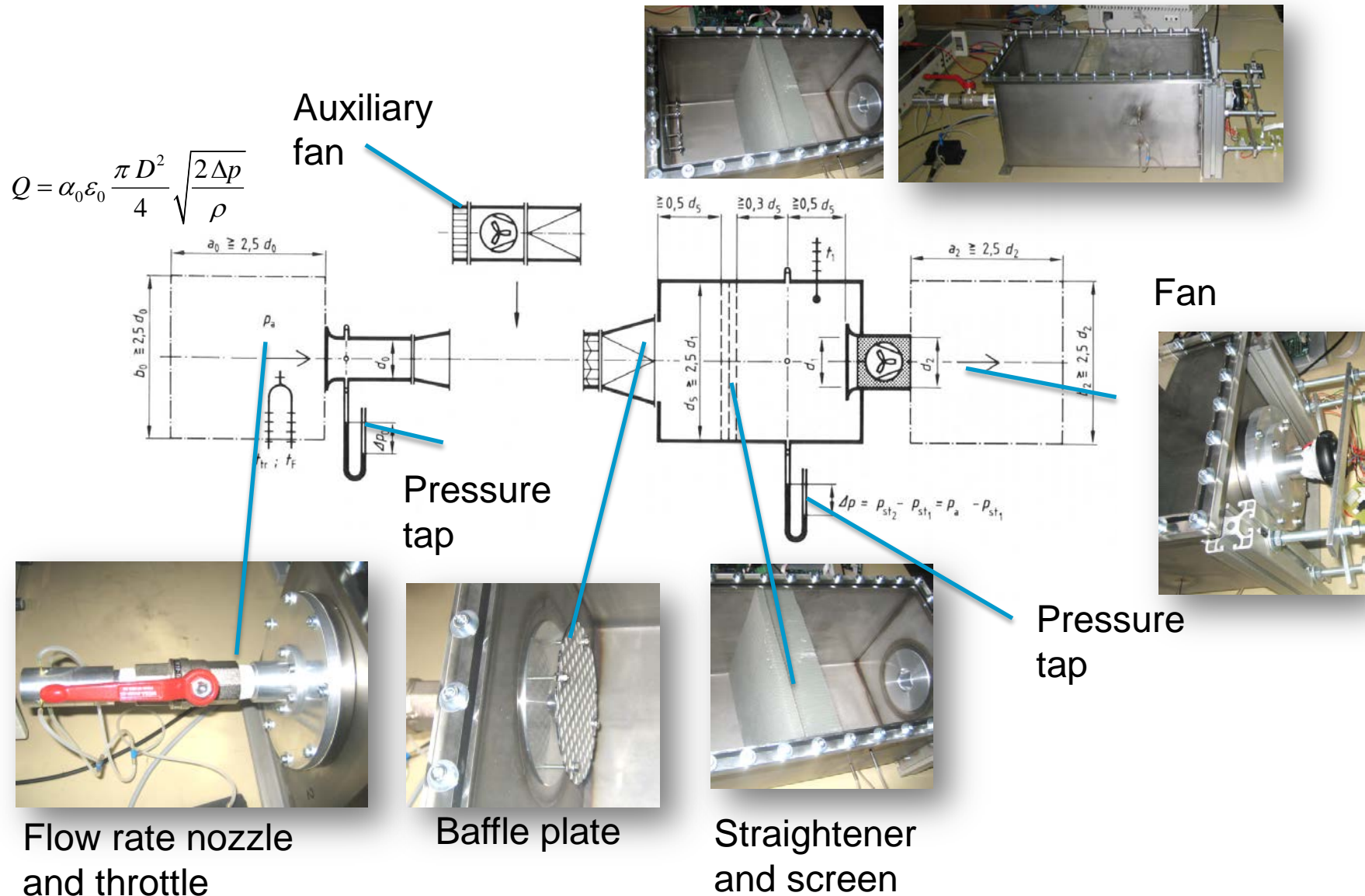
$$\Delta p_{t-s, fan} = \Delta p_{System} = k_{Rig} \cdot Q^2$$



# Test Rig Overview I



# Test Rig Overview II





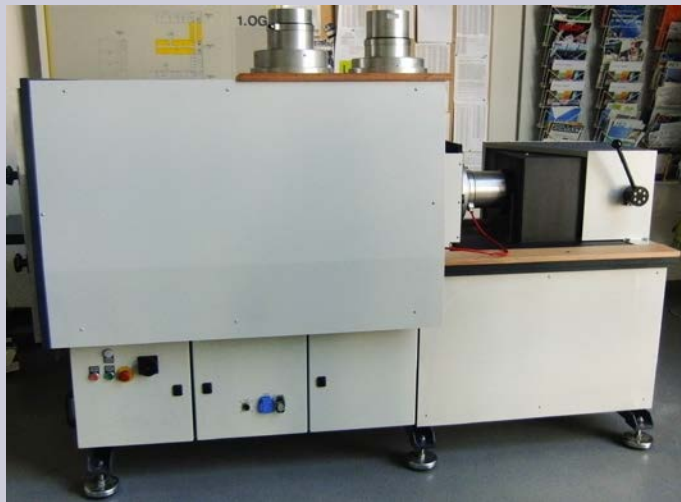
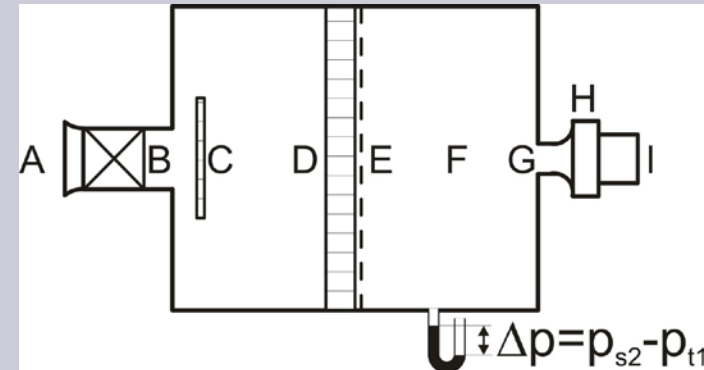
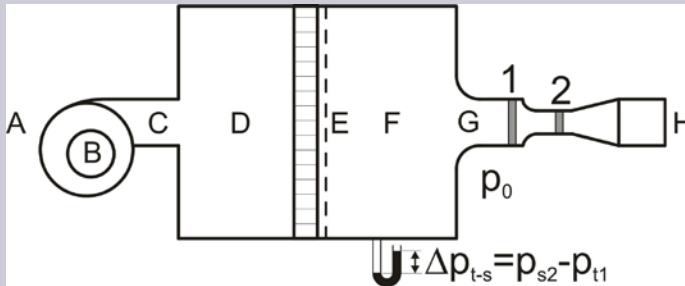
# Pressure side and suction side test rigs



## Pressure side

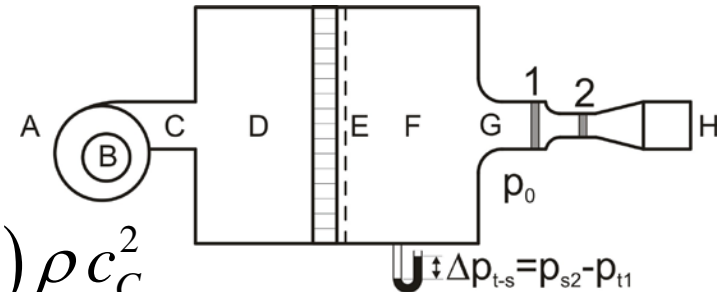
## Suction side

Fan and Blower Test Rig



# Pressure side test rig

*The key to the measurement of the total-to-static pressure of the fan in a pressure side test rig lies between C and D:*



$$p_{tC} = p_{tB} + \Delta p_{t, fan} = p_{tB} + \Delta p_{t-s, fan} + (1/2) \rho c_C^2$$

## Pressure increase due to area increase

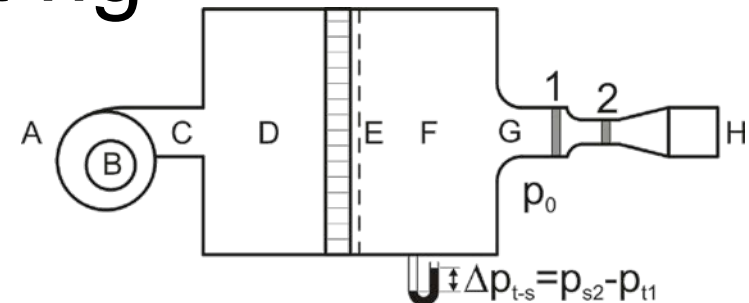
$$\begin{aligned} & (p_{sD} - p_{sC})_{Area\ increase} \\ &= (1/2) \rho c_C^2 \left( 1 - c_D^2 / c_C^2 \right) \\ &= (1/2) \rho c_C^2 \left[ 1 - (A_C / A_D)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

## Pressure loss due to sudden expansion

$$\begin{aligned} & (p_{sD} - p_{sC})_{Shock\ losses} \\ &= (1/2) \rho (c_C - c_D)^2 \\ &= (1/2) \rho c_C^2 \left[ 1 - 2c_D / c_C + (c_D / c_C)^2 \right] \\ &= (1/2) \rho c_C^2 \left[ 1 - 2A_C / A_D + (A_C / A_D)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

# Pressure side test rig

*The key to the measurement of the total-to-static pressure of the fan in a pressure side test rig lies between C and D:*



Putting it together:

$$(p_{sD} - p_{sC})_{Shock \text{ losses}}$$

$$= (1/2) \rho (c_C - c_D)^2$$

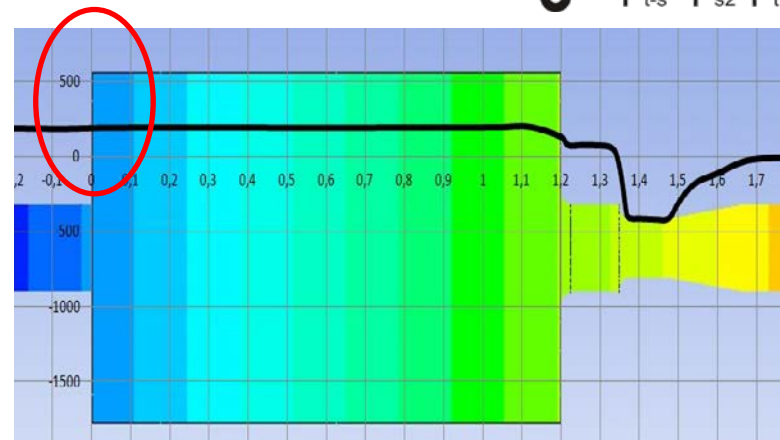
$$= (1/2) \rho c_C^2 \left[ 1 - 2c_D / c_C + (c_D / c_C)^2 \right]$$

$$= (1/2) \rho c_C^2 \left[ 1 - 2A_C / A_D + (A_C / A_D)^2 \right]$$

$$\text{or } (p_{sD} - p_{sC})_{Overall} = -\rho c_C^2 \left[ (A_C / A_D) + (A_C / A_D)^2 \right] \approx 0 \text{ for } A_C / A_D \ll 1$$

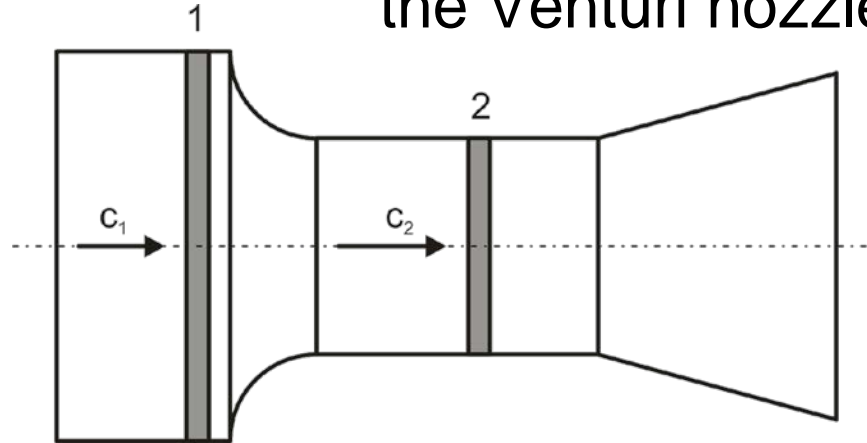
Hence  $p_{sD} = p_{sC}$  and therefore:

$$\Delta p_{t-s, fan} = p_{sC} - p_{tA} = p_{sC} - p_0 = p_{sF} - p_0$$





# Flow rate measurement: the Venturi nozzle



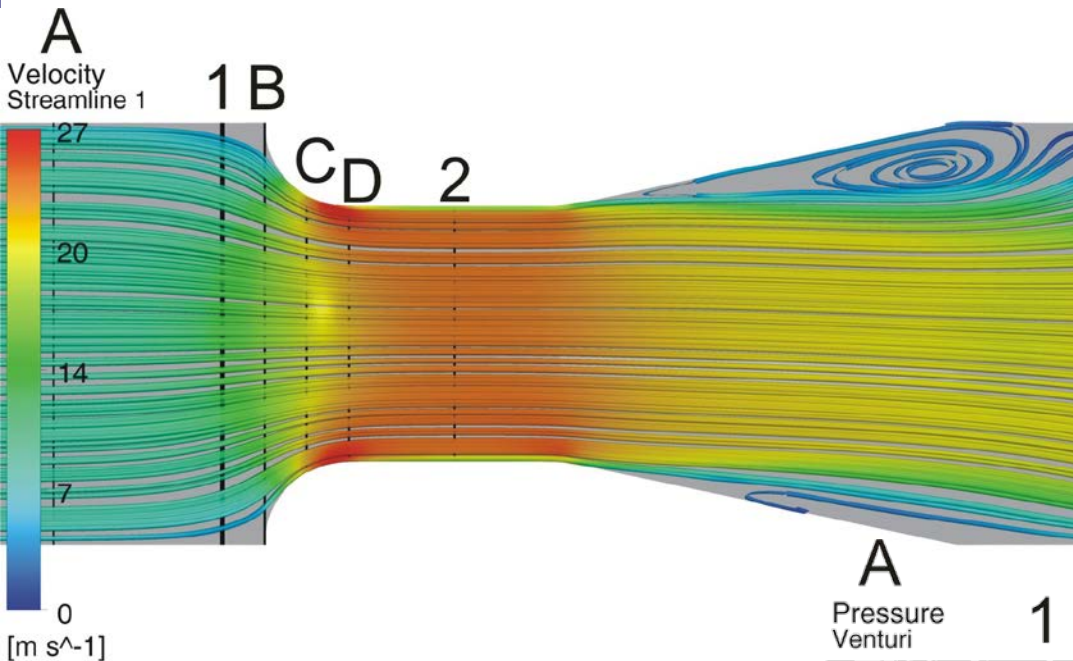
$$Q = \alpha A_2 U_2 = \alpha \frac{\pi d_2^2}{4} \sqrt{\frac{2(p_1 - p_2)}{\rho(1 - m^4)}}$$

$$m = d_2 / d_1$$

The expansion factor  $\alpha$  takes care of the fact that the flow is not one dimensional and not ideal:

- due to the development of the boundary layer at the walls, there is a displacement effect and the effective flow cross section is smaller than the geometrical cross section area, i.e. there is a blockage
- due to the constriction after position 1 the streamlines are extremely curved

# Effect of streamline curvature



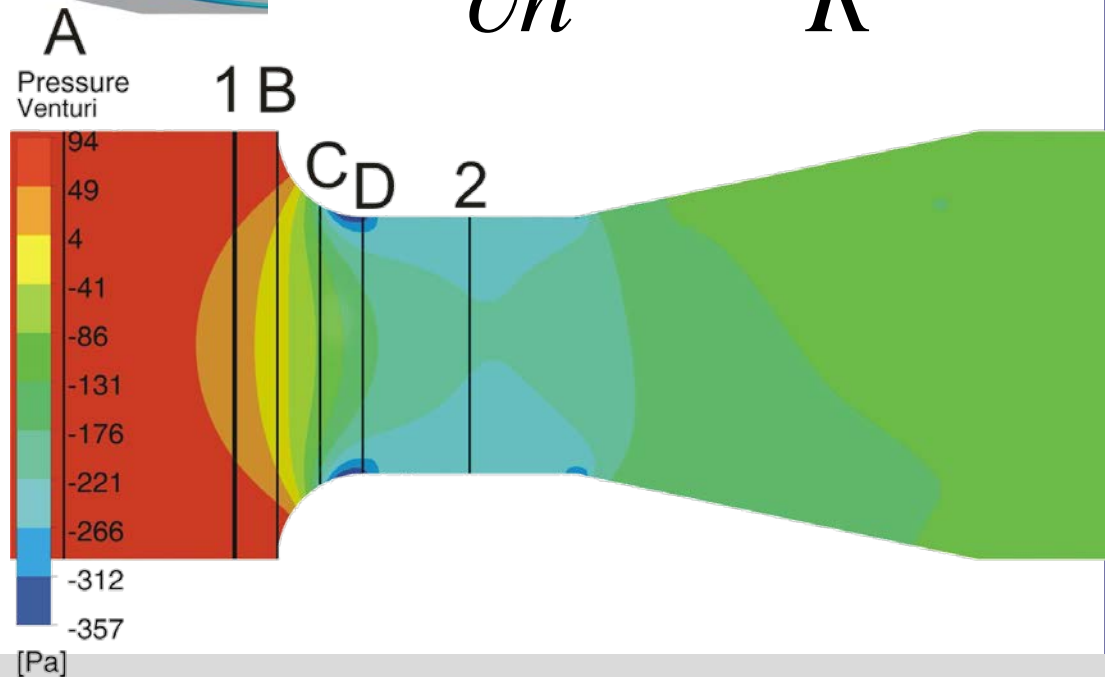
Curved streamlines in the Venturi nozzle:

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial n} = \rho \frac{c^2}{R}$$

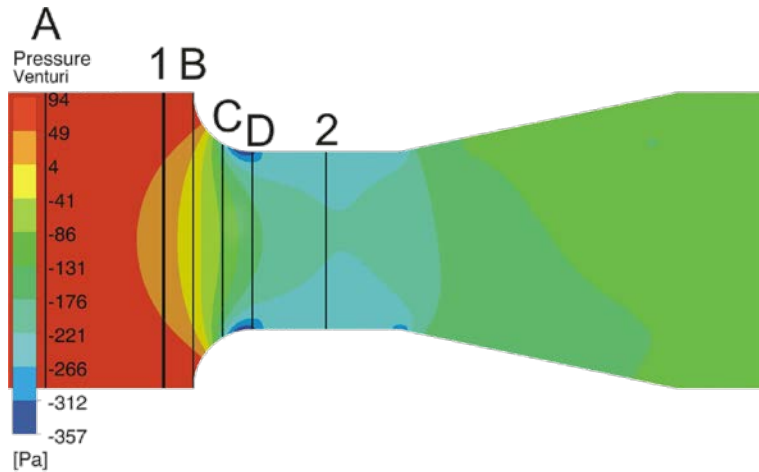
1. Curvature of the streamlines
2. Cross section area change



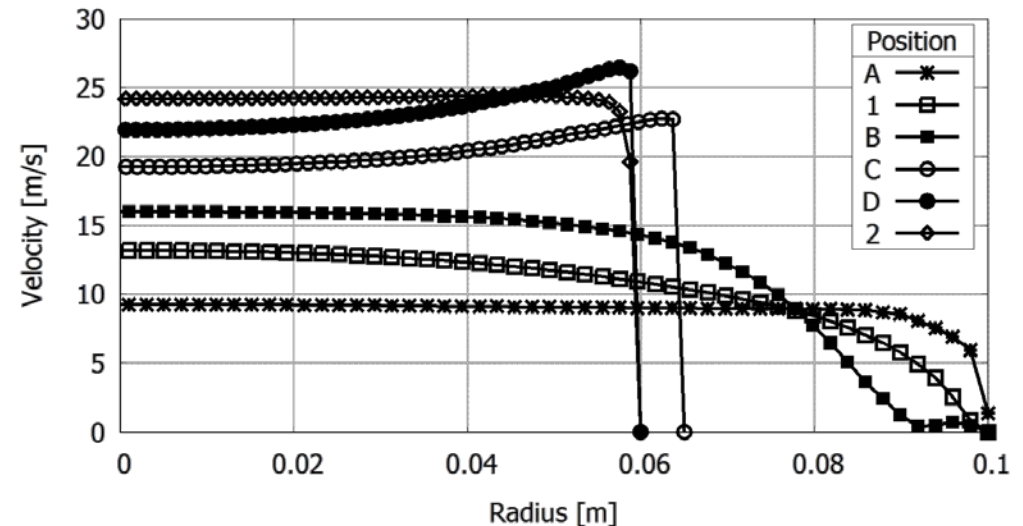
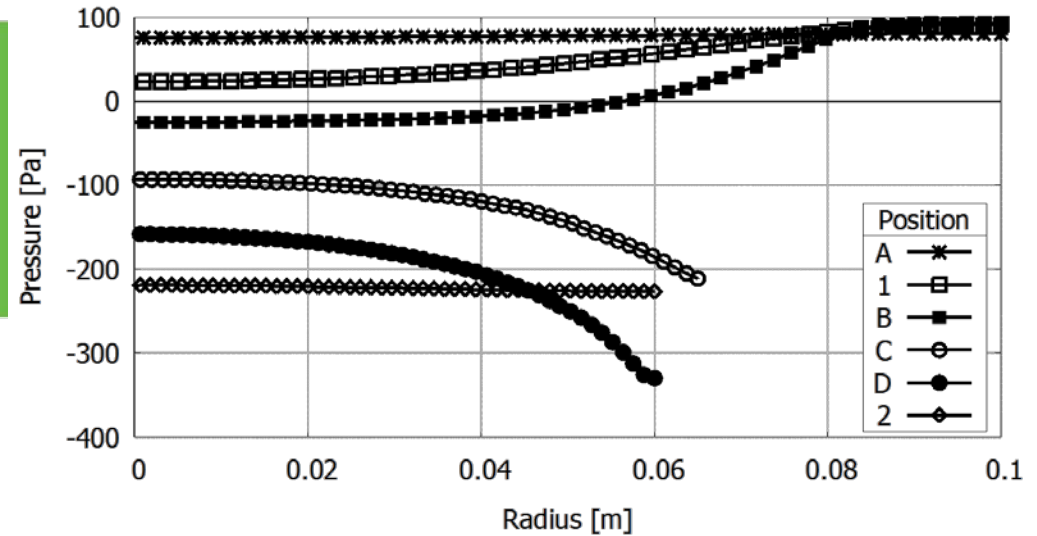
**The pressure is not constant at a given cross section of the Venturi nozzle**



# Effect of streamline curvature



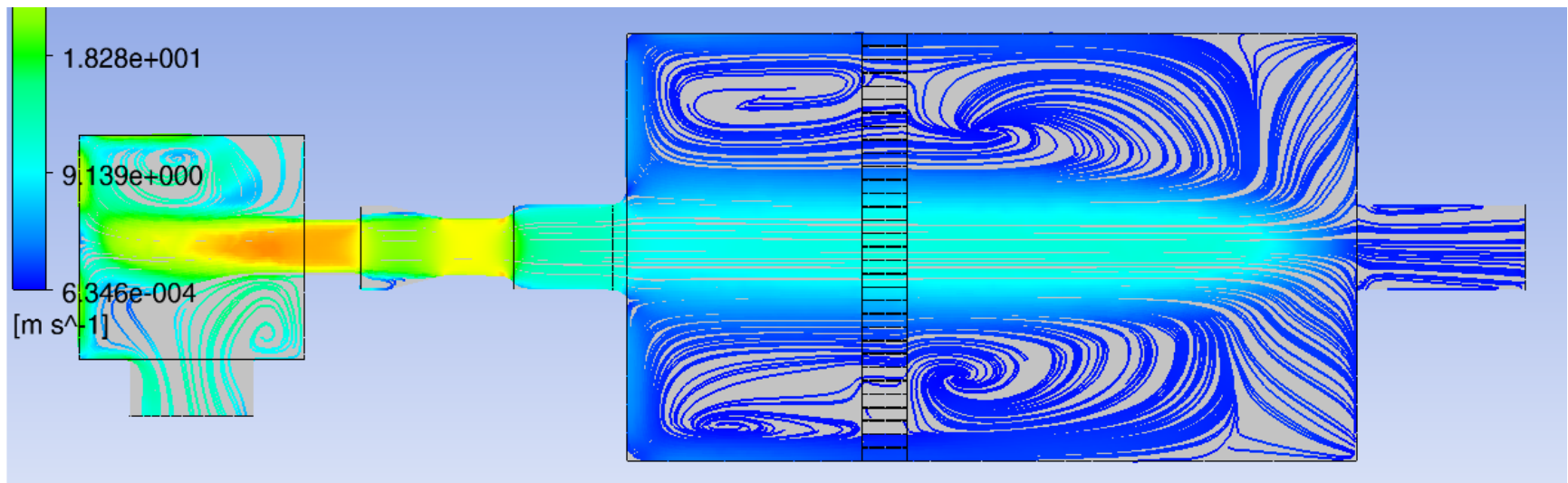
The velocity profile is approximately straight and the pressure constant in sections A and 2 but in between these sections the velocity profile is quite curved. Especially in section 1, where the pressure is also measured for the determination of the flow rate, one can see that it is not constant over the cross section.



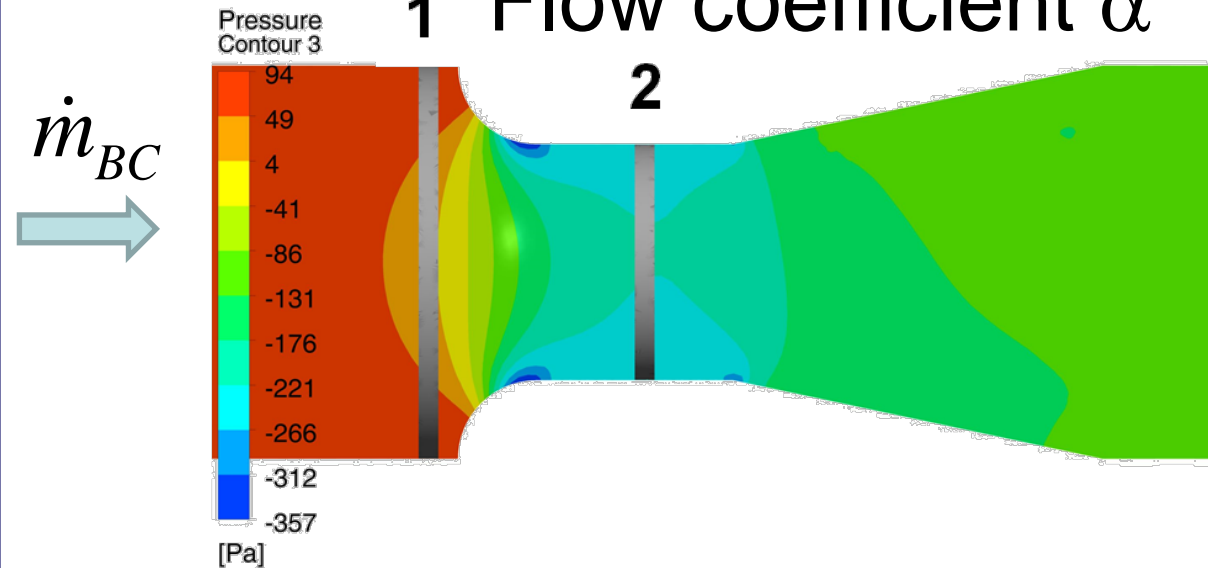


# Flow coefficient $\alpha$

It is important to determine the flow coefficient  $\alpha$  in order to compare measurements of different Venturi nozzles or even test rigs. The flow coefficient  $\alpha$  can be determined with CFD simulations.



# 1 Flow coefficient $\alpha$



1. inlet boundary condition set to mass flow rate
2. Computation of the flow coefficient  $\alpha$  as

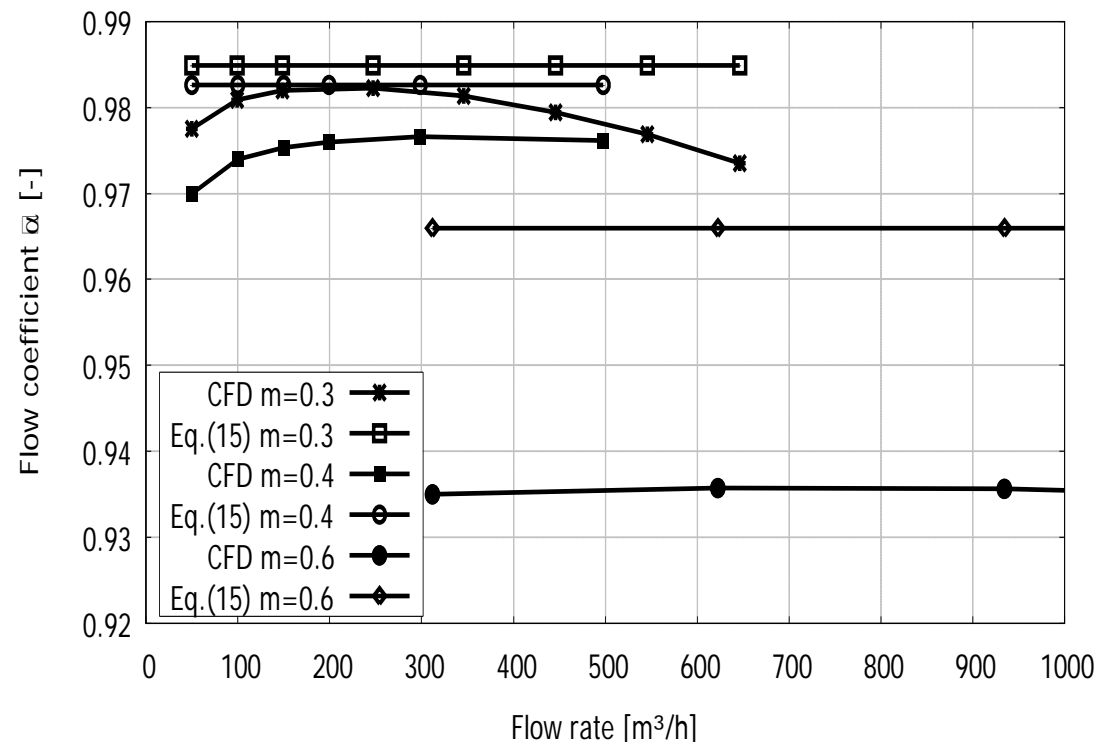
The pressures have to be evaluated at the surface of the Venturi nozzle rather than across the section in position 1, since on the measurements the pressure is also taken at the wall only.

$$\alpha = \frac{\dot{m}_{BC}}{\rho \frac{\pi d_2^2}{4} \sqrt{\frac{2(p_1 - p_2)}{\rho(1 - m^4)}}}$$

- There is a dependency on the flow rate or on the Reynolds number which cannot be predicted by equation
- The tendency, however, that the flow coefficient is lower the higher the diameter ratio  $m$  can be seen in both cases.
- flow coefficients as predicted by CFD ensure that the flow rate measured by Venturi nozzles with different diameter ratios  $m$  is the same.

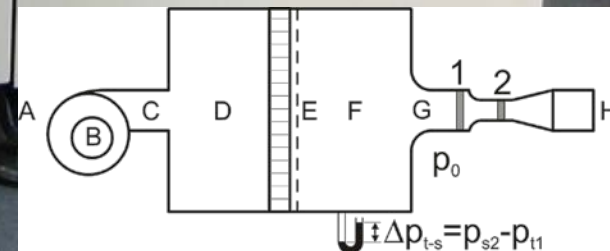
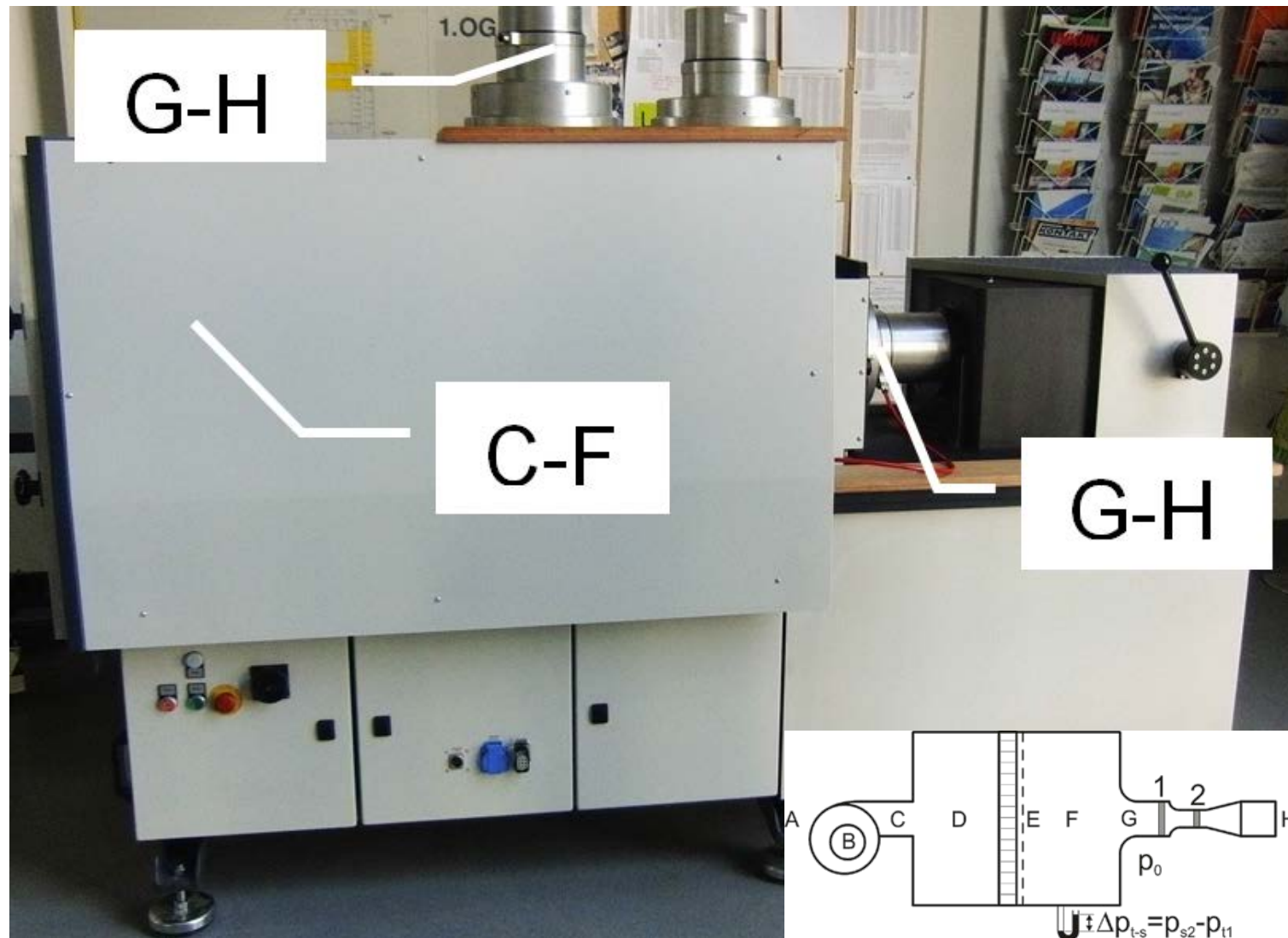
DIN EN ISO 5167-3 (empirical formula):

$$\alpha = 0.9858 - 0.196 \cdot m^{4.5} \quad m = d_2 / d_1$$





# Pressure side test rig

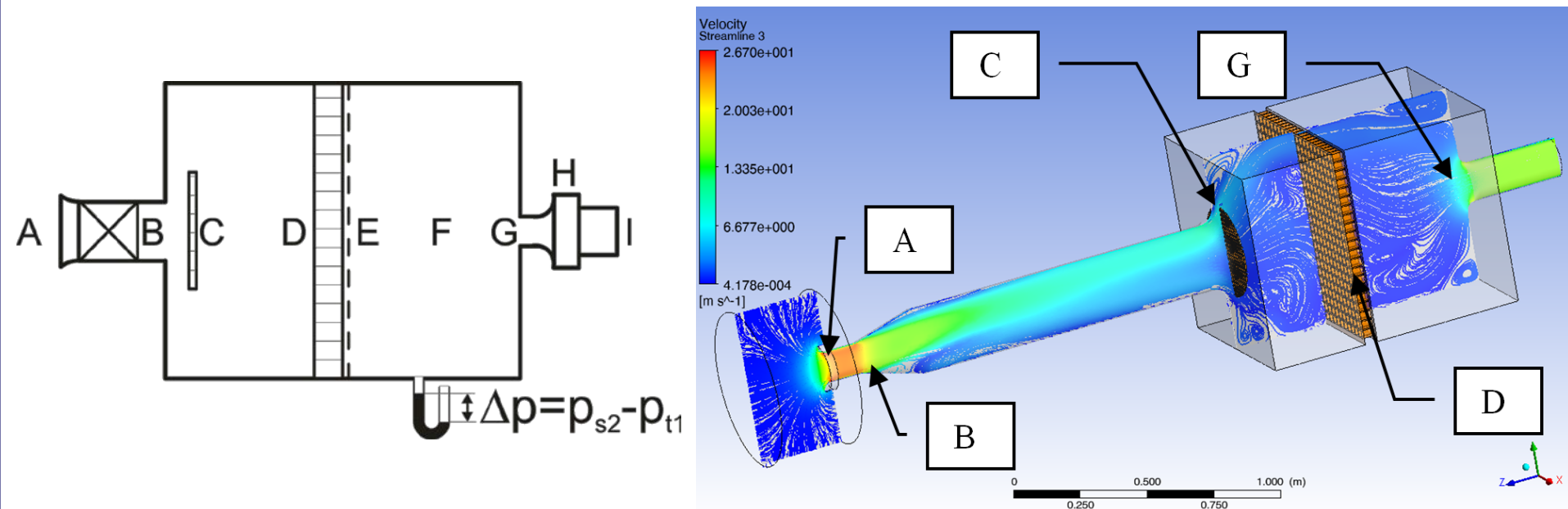


# Suction side test rig

Working principle:

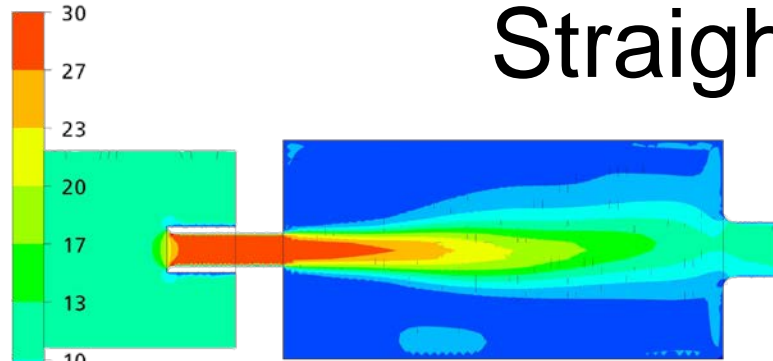
$$p_{tF} = p_{sF} + \left(1/2\right) \rho c_F^2 \approx p_{sF}$$

$$\Delta p_{t-s, fan} = p_{sF} - p_0 = p_{s2} - p_{t1}$$

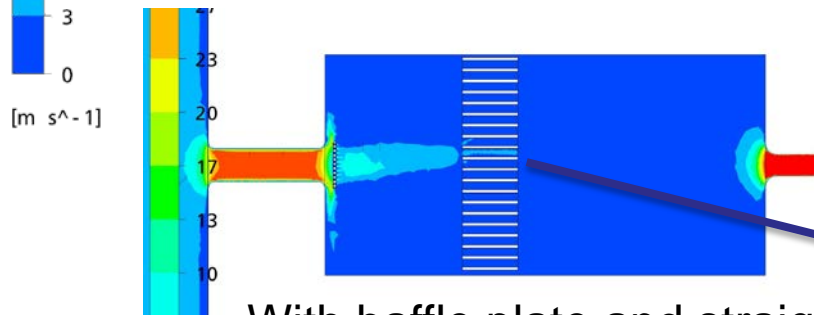


# Baffle Plate and Straightener

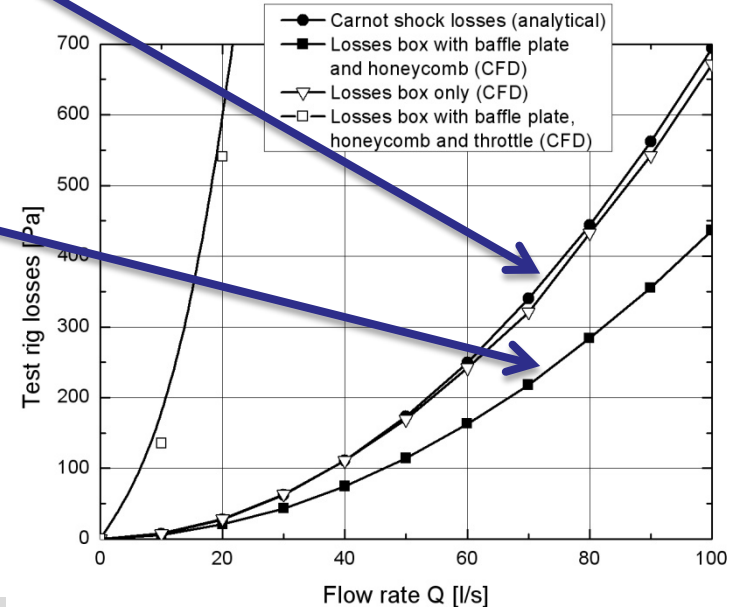
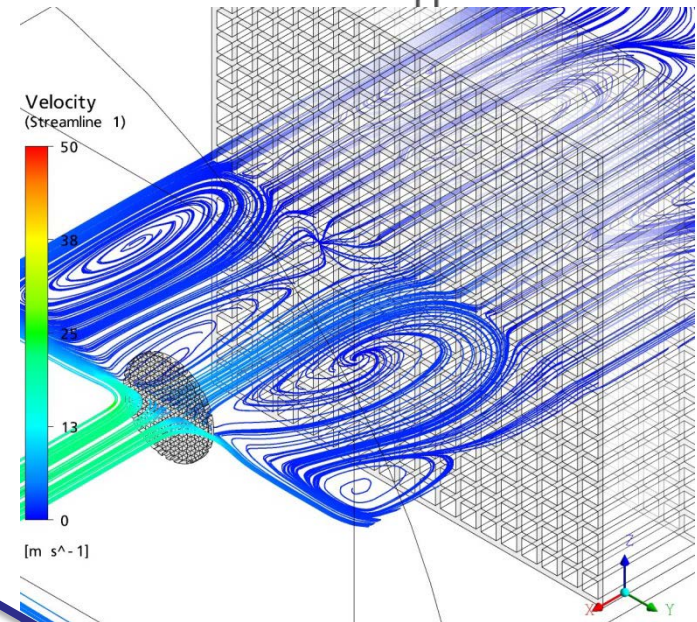
Velocity  
(Contour 1)



Without baffle plate and straightener



With baffle plate and straightener





# Flow coefficient $\alpha$

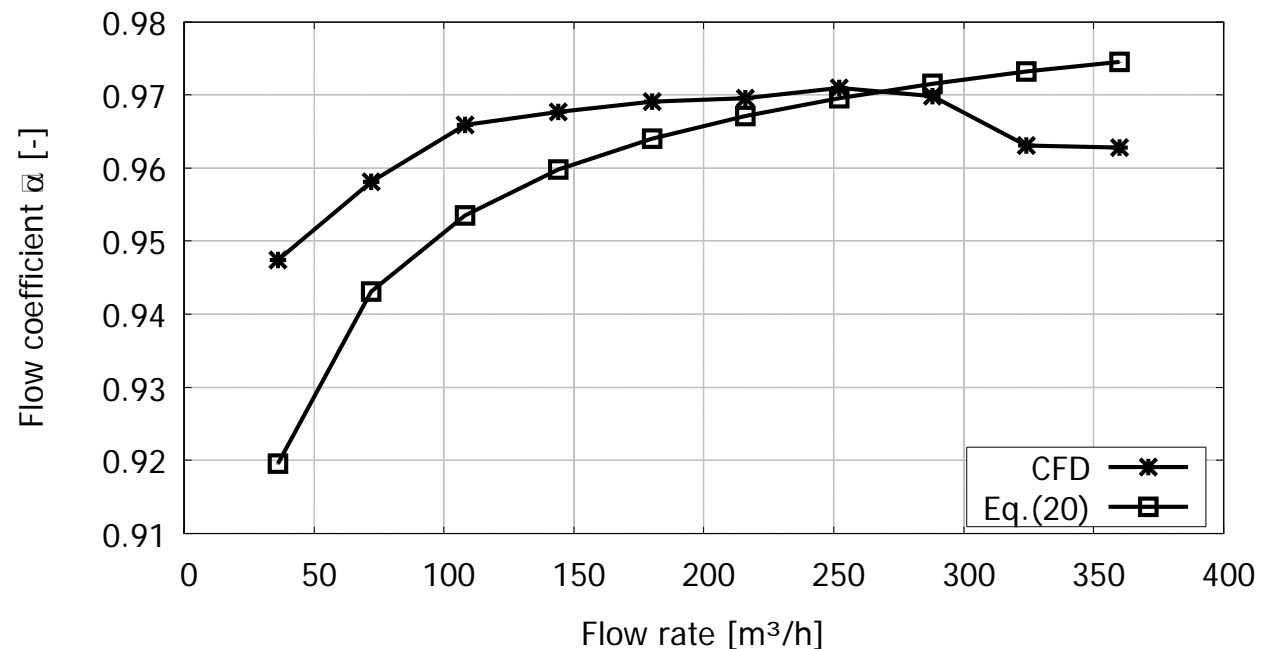
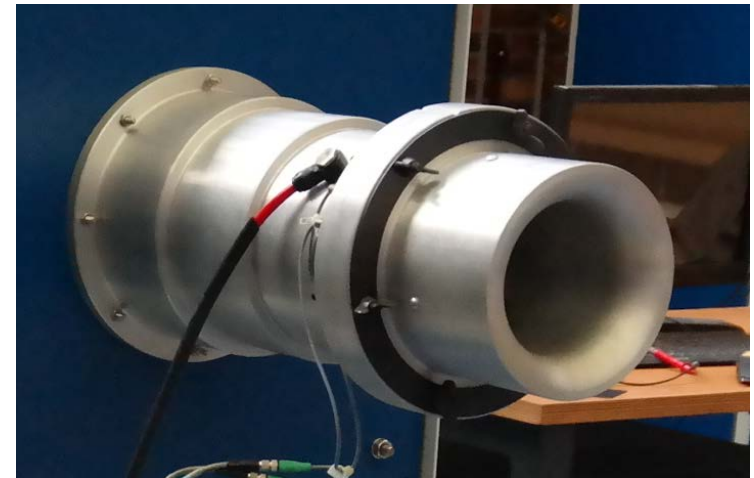
$$Q = \alpha A_{nozzle} \sqrt{2(p_0 - p_{nozzle}) / \rho}$$

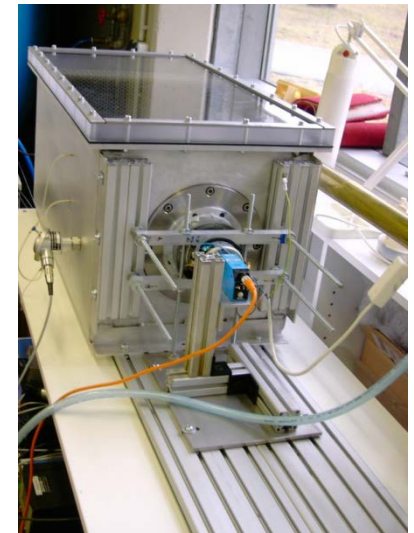
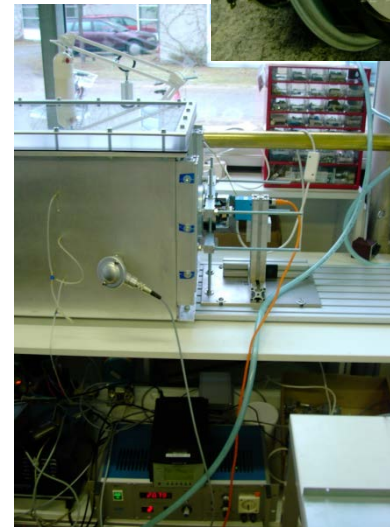
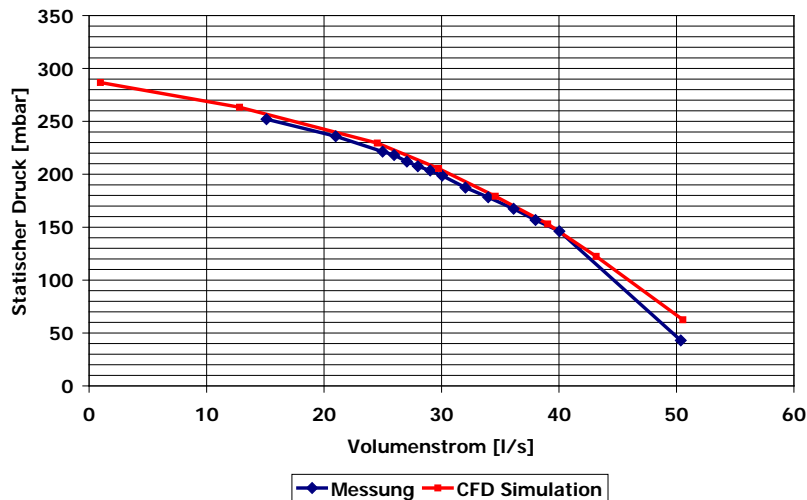
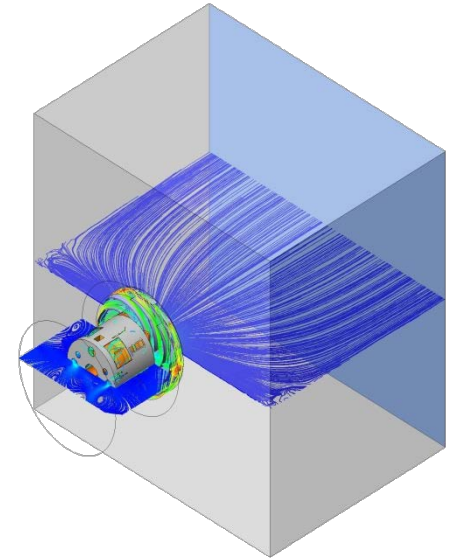
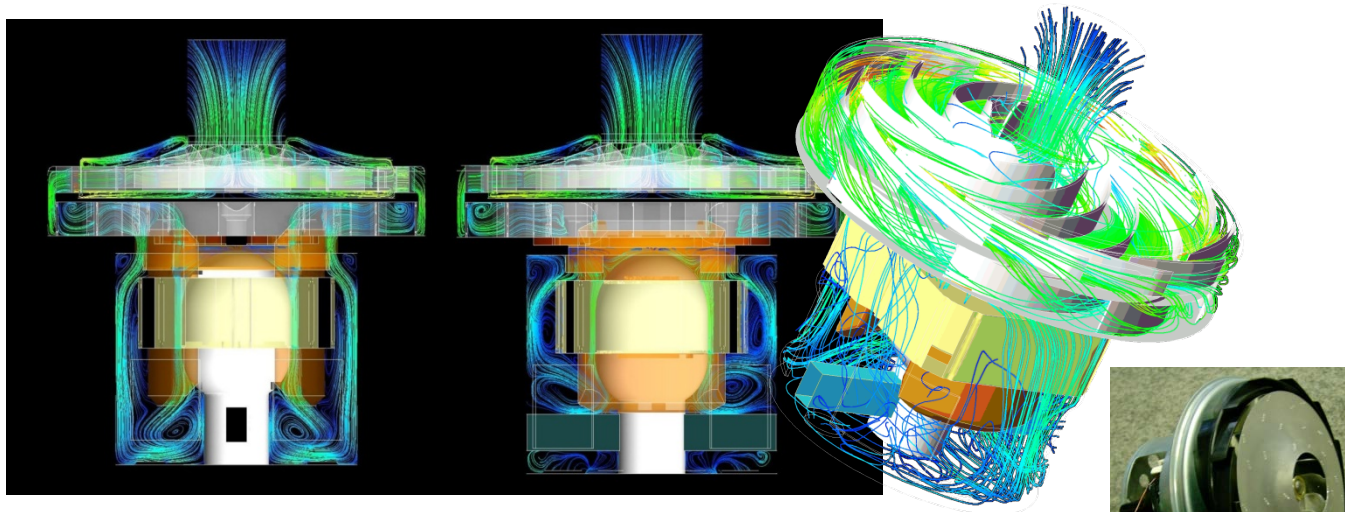
German Engineering Standard  
DIN 24 163 part 2:

$$\alpha = 1.000 - 0.004 \sqrt{10^6 / Re}$$

$$Re = c d / \nu$$

Quite good  
agreement of the  
empirical equatuion  
with the CFD  
results.

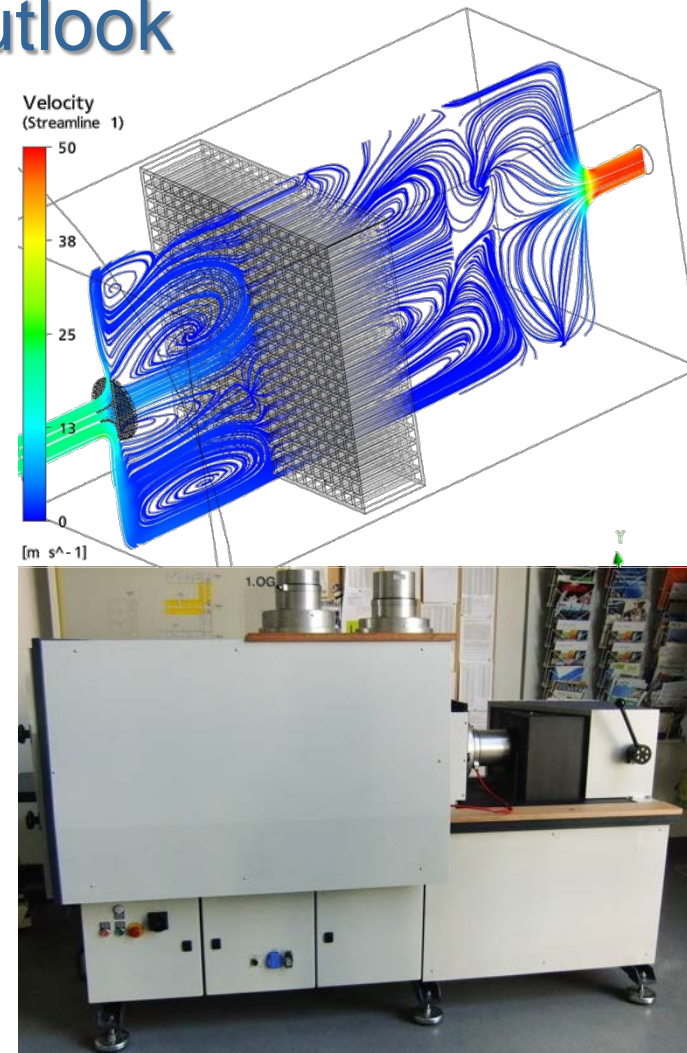




## CFD and Measurements

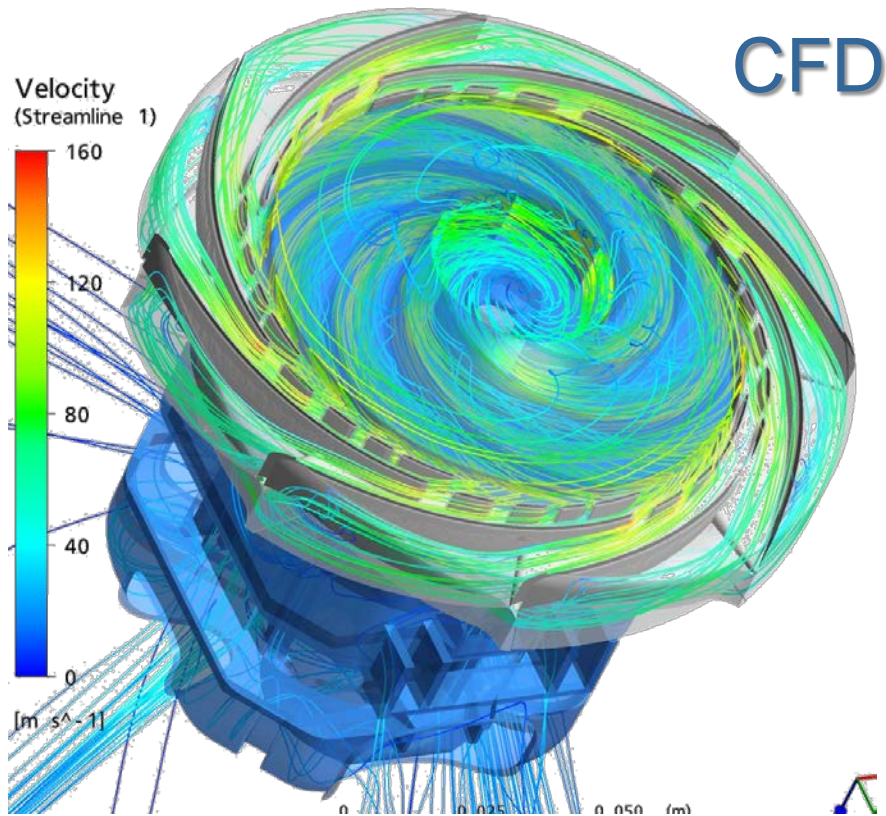
## Conclusions and Outlook

- In this work the instructions from the standards, analytical computations as well as CFD computations were combined in order to reach an optimum and compact test rig design
- flow coefficients, which usually are determined by empirical correlations, were precisely computed with CFD
- for Venturi nozzles the empirical correlations for the flow coefficient of the standards are not always accurate.
- In particular they do not include the effect of the Reynolds number.
- In that case the flow coefficients as computed by CFD deliver much more reliable results.
- In order to validate the test rig designs two test rigs were built, one suction side and the other pressure side.





Thank you!  
Any questions?



EFD



**1) Case study I:**

Epple, Ph., Miclea, M., Ilic, C., Delgado, A.: *Combined Impeller-Diffuser Design and the Influence of Slotted Guide Vanes on the Performance of Radial Diffusers*, ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition, Orlando, 2009.

**2) Case study II:**

Epple, Ph., Miclea, M., Pfannschmidt, K., Grobeis, D., Delgado, A.: *A Design Method of Radial Fans Considering the Torque-Speed-Characteristic of the Motor*, ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition, IMECE2010-39050, Vancouver, 2010.

**3) Case study III:**

Epple, Ph., Semel, M., Willinger, B., Delgado, A.: *Compact Test Rig Design For Fans And Blowers*, International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition IMECE2014, Nov 14-20, 2014, Montreal, USA.